C-34.3
BX 8957 .N4 A3
Presbyterian Church in the
U.S.A. Synod of New Jersey.
Minutes of the ... annual
session of the Synod of New
Copy 1

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.	RULING ELDERS.	P. O. ADDRESS.
	Jasper Bateman,	Cedarville, N. J.
	Geo. Gandy,	" "
	A. F. Bateman,	" "
	H. M. Howell,	" "
Tuckahoe, S. S.		
	Joseph C. Sheppard,	Tuckahoe, N. J.
	Alfred Blizzard,	" "
Brainerd.		
A. Worthington, S. S.		Elwood, N. J.
	B. F. Griswold,	" "
	H. W. Smith, M. D.,	" "

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY,

HELD AT

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY,

October, 1877,

WITH AN APPENDIX.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE STATED CLERK.

TRENTON, N. J.:
MACCRELLISH & QUIGLEY, STEAM POWER PRINTERS, 16 EAST STATE STREET.
1877.

OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD.

Moderator,

Rev. Everard Kempshall, - - Elizabeth, N. J.

Stated Clerk,

Rev. J. B. Davis, - - - Hightstown, N. J.

Enrollment and Reading Clerk,

Rev. Benjamin S. Everitt, - - Jamesburg, N. J.

Temporary Clerk,

Rev. William Swan, - - - - Stockton, N. J.

Treasurer,

Rev. J. B. Davis, - - - - Hightstown, N. J.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

The Synod of New Jersey met, pursuant to adjournment, in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Newark, on Tuesday, October 16th, 1877, at 3 o'clock P. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, the Rev. Thomas McCauley, from Acts xx: 28—"Take heed, therefore, unto yourselves and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers. Feed the flock of God which He has purchased with His own blood."

Immediately after the sermon, the Synod was constituted by prayer by the Moderator.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Presbytery of Corisco.

MINISTERS. [None.]

RULING ELDERS. [None.]

Presbytery of Elizabeth.

MINISTERS.

William W. Blauvelt, D.D. (2),
Robert Street,
John C. Rankin, D.D. (2),
James M. Bruen,
Henry R. Wilson, D.D.,
Benjamin Cory,
Edwin H. Reinhart,
John F. Pingry, Ph. D.

Charles Milne,	William Scribner (2),
Thomas T. Bradford,	Theodore S. Brown (2),
Joseph McNulty,	Everard Kempshall, D.D.,
David H. Pierson, Ph. D. (4),	William C. Roberts, D.D.,
Alexander McKelvey (2),	Isaac A. Blauvelt,
John A. Liggett (2),	John Jay Pomeroy,
John Ewing,	John C. Bliss,
Kneeland P. Ketcham,	William T. Carr,
Aaron Peck,	Edward G. Read,
Henry W. Teller,	James DeHart Bruen (3),
James W. Shearer (2),	Samuel Parry (2),
Edward C. Ray,	William H. Roberts,
John Rudolph,	Asahel L. Clark,
Hugh Smythe,	James G. Mason (2).

Total, 36.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
John M. Holmes	Basking Ridge.
Henry Race	Bethlehem.
T. E. Hunt, M.D. (3)	Clarksville.
Whitfield Dunham	Clinton.
D. M. Potter	Connecticut Farms.
Nathaniel G. Foster (2)	Cranford.
Charles H. Langdon	Elizabeth, First.
Keen Pruden	Elizabeth, Second.
David Woodruff	Elizabeth, Third.
John C. Williams	Elizabeth, Siloam.
Lewis C. Lillie	Elizabeth, Madison Avenue.
William T. Thompson	Elizabeth, Westminster.
William Woodcock	Elizabethport.
Robert Craig	Lamington.
James H. Jay	Liberty Corner.
John J. Jackson	Metuchen.
Henry D. Tyrrell (2)	Perth Amboy.
Samuel Milliken, Jr.	Plainfield, First.
J. H. Ackerman	Plainfield, Second.
William V. McKenzie	Rahway, First.
Jonathan Woodruff	Rahway, Second.
Thomas R. White	Roselle.
C. H. Sommers	Springfield.
L. H. Vernon	Summit.
H. N. Demarest	Woodbridge.

Total, 25.

Presbytery of Jersey City.

MINISTERS.

James C. Edwards,
Lawrence Mersereau,
Stephen S. Goodman,
Thomas G. Wall,
Edward W. French,
Charles D. Shaw (2),
James H. Clark,
Henry M. Booth,
John Reid,
John P. Hale,
Samuel M. Jackson.
Charles K. Imbrie, D.D.,
William H. Megie,
Oliver B. Bidwell,
Robert R. Thompson,
David Magie, D.D.,
James Marshall (3),
John R. Fisher (2),
Philo P. Leavens (2),
Clarence Geddes,
Frederick E. Voegelin,
Total, 21.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
William G. Vermilye	Englewood.
N. B. Frey	Hoboken, First.
D. N. Stiger	Jersey City, First.
Charles A. Dewitt	Bergen, First.
James K. King	Claremont.
John Gordon	Westminster.
John A. Hofford	Newfoundland.
John Ramage	Paterson, First.
Jonathan Johnson	Paterson, Second.
Benjamin F. Pond	Tenafly.

Total, 10.

Presbytery of Monmouth.

MINISTERS.

Isaac Todd,
Charles F. Worrell, D.D. (2),
Benjamin T. Phillips,
Thaddeus Wilson (3),
J. B. Davis,
E. J. Pierce,
A. P. Cobb,
Frank Chandler,
George L. Hovey,
George W. Cottrell,
Samuel Miller, D.D.,
Alfred H. Dashiel, Jr. (2),
John Brash (2),
Thomas H. Johnson,
Joseph G. Symmes,
George W. McMillan,

Donald McLaren,
Robert J. Burtt,
E. B. Hodge,
James M. Anderson,
George Swain,
John R. Sanson,
George Warrington,
James M. Denton,
J. Wynne Jones (3),
E. E. Moran (2).
Benj. S. Everitt,
Joseph S. VanDyke,
A. G. Chambers,
John Hancock,
Adrian Westveer,
Henry R. Hall,
J. Hall McIlvaine,
R. Randall Hoes (2),
L. R. Fox,
Total, 35.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
A. L. Kelly	Beverly.
H. Simmons	Bricksburg.
F. P. F. Randolph	Burlington.
Derrick G. Perrine	First Cranbury.
Ezekiel Silvers	Second Cranbury.
Richard McDowell	Dayton.
Wm. C. Lefferts	Englishtown.
Andrew Perrine	Freehold, First.
Wm. H. Courter (2)	Jamesburg.
John VanDoren	Manalapan.
Wm. Terhune	Matawan.
H. O. Curtis (2)	Squan Village.
Taylor Mount	Tennent.
T. F. Pruden	Toms River.
N. P. Todd	Whiting and Shamong.

Total, 15.

Presbytery of Morris and Orange.

MINISTERS.

Joseph M. Ogden, D.D.,
Burtis C. Megie, D.D.,
David McGee Bardwell,
Samuel N. Howell (2),
Nathaniel Conklin,
Oliver Crane (2),
O. H. Perry Deyo,
James F. Brewster,
Eldridge Mix,
John L. Chapman,
Daniel E. Megie,
David Irving, D.D. (2),
Robert Aikman, D.D.,
Charles C. Parker, D.D.,
Elijah W. Stoddard,
Wm. Henry Kirk,
Robert S. Feagles,
Alfred Yeomans,

Albert Erdman,
Julius S. Danner,
James H. Marr,
James M. Hunting,
Henry M. Grant (2),
David E. Platter,
Edward P. Linnell,
John Richelson (2),
Thos. Tyack,
William W. Holloway,
Rufus S. Green,
T. E. Davis.
Thomas Carter,
I. Williams Cochrane,
James A. Ferguson,
John H. Worcester,
Alfred VanCleve Johnson,
Pearce Rodgers,
Carl Hermann Gruhnert,
Daniel W. Fox,
Henry F. Hickok,
James W. Hillman,
W. J. Henderson,
Total, 41.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
Wm. B. LeFevre, M.D.	Berkshire Valley.
A. D. Green	Boonton.
Hervey Law	Chatham.
S. E. Hedges, M.D.	Chester.
Titus Berry	Dover.
S. C. Jones	East Orange.
F. Hoffman	Fairmount.
D. A. Nicholas	Flanders.
John C. Welsh	German Valley.
T. A. Hopping	Hanover.
Joseph C. Potts	Madison.
Wm. Ward	Mendham, First.
Wm. H. Bray	Mine Hill.
Theodore Little	Morristown, First.
M. Mitchel	Morristown, Second.
Daniel P. Merchant	Mount Freedom.
R. Preston Stephens	Mount Olives.
Samuel Oliver	New Vernon.
Stephen Wickes, M.D.	Orange, First.
H. H. Ward	Orange, Second.
L. P. Stone	Orange, Central.
W. J. Loverel	Orange, Bethel.
Hans Peterson	Orange, German.
Morris Hand	Pleasant Grove.
George E. Righter	Parsippany.
David H. Hamilton	Rockaway.
E. E. Francis	South Orange.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
A. R. Riggs	Succasunna.
William H. Kitchell	Whippany.
George B. McClellan	St. Cloud.

Total, 30.

Presbytery of Newark.

MINISTERS.

Horace N. Brinsmade, D.D.,
Isaac McIlvaine,
Samuel Hutchings,
Duncan Kennedy, D.D. (2),
Joshua H. McIlvaine, D.D.,
Joseph Few Smith, D.D.,
James S. Evans, D.D.,
J. Romeyn Berry, D.D.,
William W. McNair,
Prentiss de Veuve,
George C. Seibert, D.D.,
Isaiah B. Hopwood,
George C. Pollock,
John M. Ensslin,
Julius H. Wolff,
Isaac W. Davenport,
Samuel McBride.
Enos A. Osborn,
Robert B. Campfield,
Jonathan F. Stearns, D.D.,
James P. Wilson, D.D.,
A. Cogswell Frissell,
Wm. T. Findley, D.D.,
Elijah R. Craven, D.D.,
Isaac M. See,
Charles H. Thebareth,
Charles T. Haley,
Henry W. Ballantine,
Charles E. Knox, D.D.,
Charles T. Berry,
William Nordt,
John L. Wells,
L. H. Baldwin,
Total, 33.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
C. Peloubet	Bloomfield.
Frederick Crane	Westminster, Bloomfield.
William Price	Caldwell.
Amos Pollison	Lyons Farms.
John M. Doubleday	Montclair.
Joseph N. Tuttle	Newark, First.
William S. Ward, M.D.	Newark, Second.
Lorenzo Boyden	Newark, Third.
Job Haines	Newark, Sixth.
I. M. Harrison	Newark, South Park.
John L. Meeker	Newark, High Street.
Aaron O. Price	Newark, Central.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
E. P. Nichols	Newark, Park.
Thomas K. McClelland	Newark, Wickliffe.
W. F. Van Wagenen	Newark, Roseville.
William Jenkins	Newark, Calvary.
F. C. Hexamer	Newark, First German.
A. Ackerman	Newark, Second German.
T. Kingeldey	Newark, Third German.
Anthony Mandeville	Newark, Plane Street.
John M. Phillips	Woodside.

Total, 21.

Presbytery of New Brunswick.

MINISTERS.

Ravaud K. Rodgers, D.D.,	Charles W. Nassau, D.D.,
John Maclean, D.D. (2),	Hugh Hamill, D.D.,
Alexander T. McGill, D.D. (3),	Lyman H. Atwater, D.D. (3),
David M. Halliday,	Cornelius S. Conkling,
George Sheldon, D.D.,	John Miller,
John Woodbridge, D.D.,	William Henry Green, D.D. (2),
John T. Duffield, D.D. (3),	A. Gosman, D.D.,
William A. McCorkle, D.D. (2),	Charles A. Aiken, D.D. (2),
P. Augustus Studdiford, D.D.,	Amzi L. Armstrong,
Isaac M. Patterson,	Henry C. Cameron, D.D.,
Abram E. Baldwin (2),	S. M. Studdiford,
Thomas Nichols,	George Macloskie, LL.D.,
John S. Beekman,	James B. Kennedy (2),
Job D. Randolph (3),	Aaron F. Hutchinson,
A. A. Hodge, D.D.,	George L. Smith,
Daniel R. Foster,	Lewis W. Mudge,
William Swan,	I. Van Wart Schenck,
Alexander Miller,	Charles H. Assay,
Walter A. Brooks,	Charles S. Converse,

William P. Patterson. Total, 39.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
J. W. Bellis	Amwell, First.
S. C. Barber	Amwell, Second.
B. McD. Field (2)	Bound Brook.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
John S. Bergen	Dutch Neck.
E. W. Lanning	Ewing.
Edward R. Bullock	Flemington.
J. G. VanDyke	Kingston.
Jacob S. VanMater	Kirkpatrick Memorial.
Peter S. Pidcock	Lambertville.
Peter Davis	Lawrenceville.
William Rust	First, New Brunswick.
John E. Burd	Pennington.
George M. Maclean, M.D.	First, Princeton.
Isaac Stockton	Witherspoon St., Princeton.
William V. Case (2)	Stockton.
Isaac Farley	Titusville.
R. P. Stoll	Trenton, First.
George S. Grosvenor	Trenton, Third.
B. Pickel (2)	Trenton, Fourth.
Samuel C. Brown (2)	Trenton, Prospect Street.

Total, 20.

Presbytery of Newton.

MINISTERS.

Frederick Knighton, D.D.,	J. Addison Priest, D.D.,
Ephraim Simonton,	Henry E. Spayd,
Robert B. Foresman,	Thomas McCauley,
H. Brown Scott,	William B. McKee,
John B. Kugler,	John P. Clarke,
Henry B. Townsend,	James M. Maxwell,
E. Clark Cline,	William A. Holliday (2),
Thomas S. Long,	Daniel Deurelle,
Samuel E. Webster,	Caleb H. Rodney,
William H. Belden (2),	Theodore F. Chambers,
Edgar A. Hamilton,	John F. Pollock,
George W. Thomson,	J. F. Shaw.

Total, 24.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
William H. Morrow	Belvidere, First.
J. G. Shipman	Belvidere, Second.
Charles E. Vail	Blairstown.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
William Tinsman	Bloomsburg.
Daniel Wyker	Branchville.
A. Smith	Deckertown.
Joseph W. Carter	Greenwich.
Morris Wade	Hackettstown.
William G. Dufford	Mansfield, First.
Ephraim Walters	Mansfield, Second.
John B. Lunger	Musconetcong.
David R. Hull	Newton.
H. J. Butler	Oxford, First.
Sheldon Scranton	Oxford, Second.
L. Marshall Teel	Phillipsburg.
A. P. Kinney	Stewartsville.
J. R. Kerr	Yellow Frame.
Jacob N. DeWitt	Wantage, First.
John Dunning	Wantage, Second.

Total, 19.

Presbytery of West Jersey.

MINISTERS.

Albert Worthington,	Erastus M. Kellogg,
John O. Wells,	William T. Doubleday,
Allen H. Brown,	William Bannard, D.D.,
Thomas S. Dewing (2),	Edward P. Shields,
Lewis C. Baker,	J. Allen Maxwell,
R. Hamill Davis,	Alexander Proudfit,
William A. Ferguson,	Samuel R. Anderson,
Leonidas E. Coyle,	Oliver B. McCurdy,
Adolphus A. E. Wanderer,	James K. Wilson (2),
Edward Dillon (2),	William S. Frackleton.

Total, 20.

RULING ELDERS.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
Joseph Reeves	First, Bridgeton.
William Elmer, M. D.	West Bridgeton.
Reuben F. Bancroft	Camden, Second.
Joseph E. Hughes	Cape Island.

NAMES.	CHURCHES.
Samuel Tweed (2)	Clayton.
Thomas B. Jones	Salem.
John Telford	Vineland.
J. R. Alderman	Woodstown.

Total, 8.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Rev. Gustavus Abeel, D.D., of the Particular Synod of New York.
" R. H. Steele, D.D., " " " " "
" F. T. Wilson, " " " " "
" Theodore B. Romeyn, " " " " "
" Wm. J. R. Taylor, D.D., " " " " "
" Dr. Ward, of the Congregational Association of New Jersey.
" Mr. Dunn, of the Newark Conference of M. E. Church.
" Dr. Bartine, " " " " "
" William R. Work, Synod of Philadelphia.
" Jacob Weidman, " "
" N. G. Parke, D.D., " "
" D. M. James, " "
" E. B. Cleghorn, " "
" Edward Webb, " "
" C. A. Briggs, D.D., Synod of New York.
" Daniel W. Lathrop, " "
" S. D. Burchard, D.D., " "
" Charles Wood, Synod of Long Island.
" James McDougall, " " "
" T. White, D.D., Synod of Geneva.
" Alfred King, Synod of Western New York.

Total, 21.

SUMMARY.

Ministers	249
Ruling Elders	148
Corresponding Members	21
	418

OFFICERS ELECTED.

The Rev. Everard Kempshall, D.D., of the Presbytery of Elizabeth, was elected Moderator, and Rev. Messrs. B. S. Everitt and William Swan were elected Temporary Clerks.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The Committee of Arrangements presented a report recommending—

1st. That the sessions of Synod begin each morning at half-past eight o'clock, and continue until half-past twelve. Recess until half-past two. Afternoon session from half-past two until half-past five o'clock.

2d. That the first half hour of each morning's session be spent in devotional exercises, under the direction of the Moderator.

3d. That the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be celebrated in the Third Church of Newark, on Tuesday evening, commencing at half-past seven o'clock. That the Sacramental service be under the direction of the Moderator. That an address be delivered by the Rev. A. A. Hodge, D.D. That Rev. Wm. Bannard, D.D., distribute the bread, and the Rev. R. K. Rodgers, D.D., distribute the wine and deliver an address.

4th. That Wednesday evening be devoted to hearing representatives of the Boards of the Church and other religious and benevolent societies.

The recommendations of the committee were adopted.

Synod then adjourned, to meet in the Third Presbyterian Church at half-past seven o'clock.

Prayer by the Moderator.

At half-past seven o'clock P. M., Synod met, pursuant to adjournment, in the Third Church, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated, as previously ordered. At the close of this service, the Synod was called to order for business.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Moderator announced standing committees as follows, viz.:

I. Bills and Overtures—Rev. Thomas McCauley, Rev. William C. Roberts, D.D., Rev. Eldridge Mix, Rev. David Magie, D.D., W. F. Van Wagenen, William Elmer, M.D., John Robbins.

II. Judicial Committee—Rev. William Bannard, D.D., Rev. Charles K. Imbrie, D.D., Rev. H. F. Hickok, Rev. F. Chandler, J. N. Tuttle, Esq., W. G. Vermilye, Esq.

JUDICIAL CASES.

The Stated Clerk announced that certain papers had been placed in his hands, as follows, viz.:

1st. The appeal of the Rev. Isaac M. See from the decision of the Presbytery of Newark, given January 3d, 1877.

2d. Appeal or complaint of the Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., against two matters contained in the final decision of the Presbytery of Newark in the case of the Rev. Isaac M. See.

3d. The appeal of the Rev. Isaac M. See from the decision of the Presbytery of Newark, given July 5th, 1877.

4th. The appeal of the Rev. John Miller from the decision of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, given May 4th, 1877.

Resolved, That these papers be referred to the Judicial Committee.

The Judicial Committee obtained leave to retire for the consideration of judicial business at such times as may be necessary.

Resolved, That a telegraphic dispatch of greeting be sent, in the name of Synod, signed by the Moderator and Stated Clerk, to the Synod of New York, now in session at Newburgh, N. Y.

Synod then adjourned, to meet in the First Church, on Wednesday morning at half-past eight o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 17th.

Synod met, pursuant to adjournment, in the First Presbyterian Church, at half-past eight o'clock A. M. Half an hour was spent in devotional exercises, after which the minutes of the proceedings of the previous day were read and approved.

Satisfactory reasons for absence from this meeting of Synod were presented in behalf of Rev. John Hall, D.D., Rev. Joseph R. Mann, D.D., Rev. V. D. Reed, D.D.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES.

The Moderator appointed committees as follows, viz.:

III. **On the Minutes of the General Assembly**—Rev. James P. Wilson, D.D., Rev. A. Gosman, D.D., Rev. Robert Street, Rev. Wm. A. Holliday, Derrick G. Perrine, George M. Maclean, M.D.

IV. **On Treasurer's Accounts and Assessments**—General George B. McClellan and Charles H. Langdon, Esq.

V. **On the Narrative for 1878**—Rev. John Woodbridge, D.D., and Rev. J. Hall McIlvaine.

COMMITTEES ON PRESBYTERIAL RECORDS.

Elizabeth—Rev. Samuel Miller, D.D., Rev. Alfred Yeomans, Elder Andrew Perrine.

Jersey City—Rev. Joseph G. Symmes, Rev. R. B. Foresman, Elder William Rust.

Newark—Rev. Robert Aikman, D.D., Rev. William H. Roberts, Elder Charles A. DeWitt.

New Brunswick—Rev. J. Few Smith, D.D., Rev. E. W. French, Elder H. H. Ward.

Newton—Rev. A. L. Armstrong, Rev. P. de Veuve, Elder Amos Paulison.

Monmouth—Rev. H. M. Booth, Rev. John A. Liggett, Elder S. E. Hedges.

Morris and Orange—Rev. F. Knighton, D.D., Rev. C. T. Haley, Elder Joseph Reeves.

West Jersey—Rev. Albert Erdman, Rev. John C. Bliss, Elder J. G. Van Dyke.

Additions to the Judicial Committee were announced as follows, viz.: Theodore Little, Samuel Milliken, Jr., F. B. F. Randolph.

A petition from the Second Church of Cranbury was received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The committee appointed at the last annual meeting to procure an act of the Legislature enabling such of our Churches as may desire it to hold their property in the name of their ordained officers, reported that the committee was unable to agree upon an act that would be likely to be approved by the Legislature, and asked to be discharged. The report was accepted, and the request of the committee was granted.

Resolved, That a new committee be appointed to carry out the wishes of Synod in this matter, in conformity with its previous action.

CHURCH EXTENSION AND HOME MISSIONS.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension and Home Missions presented their annual report, which was accepted and adopted. (See Appendix.)

The report of the treasurer of the above committee was presented, and referred to the Committee to Audit the Treasurer's Accounts.

Resolved, That the Synod recognizes the importance of the work of the Standing Committee on Church Extension and Home Missions, and recommends the reappointment of the committee and the vigorous prosecution of the work by the appointment of a Synodical Missionary.

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

The Standing Committee on Systematic Beneficence presented their annual report, which was accepted and recommitted with instructions to make such recommendations as the committee deem important.

Corresponding members were recognized as follows, viz.: Rev. C. A. Briggs, D.D., of the Synod of New York; Rev. Drs. Abeel, Wilson and Steele, of the Particular Synod of New York; Rev. Messrs. Work, Weidman and Jaynes, of the Synod of Philadelphia; Rev. Dr. Wood, of the Congregational Association of Newark; Rev. L. R. Dunn, of the Newark Conference of the M. E. Church.

REPORT OF THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE.

The Judicial Committee presented a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Judicial Committee respectfully report judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2, being: 1st. An "appeal or complaint" of the Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., against a decision of the Presbytery of Newark, rendered January 3d, 1877, in the case of the Rev. Isaac M. See, a member of the Presbytery. 2d. An appeal of the Rev. Isaac M. See from the decision of the Presbytery of Newark in the same case.

Both these appeals are found to be in order. These two appeals, having reference to the same decision of the Presbytery of Newark, although entirely distinct, are yet so blended that, in the judgment of your committee, it will save the time of the Synod to hear them together. Your committee, therefore, recommend that these appeals be taken up at the same time, and that they be heard in the following order:

1st. That the decision of the Presbytery appealed from in both cases be read, and also the original charge.

2d. The reading of the reasons assigned by the Rev. Dr. Craven for his appeal or complaint.

3d. The reading of the reasons assigned by the Rev. Isaac M. See for his appeal from the same decision of Presbytery.

4th. The reading of the whole record of the Presbytery in the case, including all the testimony and the reasons for their decision.

5th. The hearing of the original parties—Rev. Dr. Craven and Rev. Isaac M. See.

6th. The hearing of the persons appointed to defend the Presbytery in reference to both appeals.

7th. The hearing of the members of the Presbytery of Newark in explanation of the grounds of their decision and of their dissent from the same.

8th. The committee also recommend that when the final vote is taken, it be taken on each appeal in its reference to the several paragraphs of the Presbytery's decision, *seriatim*. The vote being thus taken, first, on the appeal or complaint of Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D.; and, secondly, on the appeal of the Rev. Isaac M. See.

Resolved, That the hearing of this case be the first order of the day for the afternoon session.

Synod then took recess until half-past two o'clock P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

The first order of the day, which was judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2, was taken up.

The report of the Judicial Committee was again read.

The Moderator then announced from the chair that the body was about to pass to the consideration of the business assigned for trial, and enjoined on the members of Synod to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

Resolved, That the hearing of this case close, so far as this afternoon's session is concerned, at 5 o'clock.

Attested copies of the proceedings of the Presbytery of Newark in this case having been printed and laid upon the Clerk's table, it was—

Resolved, That, by consent of parties, these printed copies be accepted as authentic records in the case.

The trial then proceeded in the order previously adopted, viz.:

1. The decision of the Presbytery appealed from in both cases was read, together with the original charge.

2. The reasons assigned by the Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., for his appeal or complaint, were read.

3. The reasons assigned by the Rev. Isaac M. See for his appeal, were read.

4. The whole record of the Presbytery in the case, including all the testimony and the reasons for their decision, were read.

At this stage of the proceedings, the Rev. J. H. Clark raised the following points of order, viz.:

1st. Dr. E. R. Craven has no right at this time to appear before the Synod on an *appeal*, as he has not been tried by the Presbytery of Newark, and has, therefore, no sentence to appeal from. The only way for him to present his grievance with regard to the action of the Presbytery of Newark in the case of the Rev. Isaac M. See, would be by *complaint*, and therefore his paper, called an "appeal or complaint," should be rejected as an appeal and sent back to the Judicial Committee for such action as will make it accord with the requirements of the Book of Discipline.

2d. My second point of order is, that if Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., has no standing in this court as an appellant from a sentence of Presbytery, but only as a complainant with reference to the action of Presbytery in the case of Rev. Isaac M. See, then it would be improper to consider his paper as occupying the same position before Synod, and therefore to be examined and adjudicated upon at the same time.

The above points of order, raised by Rev. J. H. Clark, were not sustained.

At this point the Moderator was excused for the remainder of the afternoon, and the Rev. Thomas McCauley took the chair.

6. The Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., was heard until five o'clock, when, as previously ordered, the consideration of judicial business was suspended.

The Committee of Arrangements presented an additional report recommending exercises for the evening, as follows, viz.:

1. Devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator.

2. An address by Rev. William C. Roberts, D.D., in behalf of the Board of Education.

3. An address by Dr. Few Smith in behalf of the Board of Church Erection.

4. An address by William Rankin, Esq., in behalf of the Board of Foreign Missions.

5. An address by Dr. C. E. Knox, in behalf of the German Theological School.

6. An address by Rev. George L. Hovey, in behalf of the American and Foreign Christian Union.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Standing Committee on Systematic Beneficence presented recommendations as follows, viz.:

1. That the Chairman of the Synodical Committee on Systematic Beneficence be directed to send a statistical report of the benevolent work of the Churches embraced in the Synod, to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, in the month of May next.

2. That the Presbyteries be directed to take such action upon the subject of Systematic Beneficence as shall bring to the attention of the sessions of our Churches the importance of affording to each individual in the congregation an opportunity of contributing to all the departments of Church work.

3. That the annual report on Systematic Beneficence be adopted and printed in the appendix to the minutes of Synod.

The recommendations of the committee were adopted.

The minutes of the Presbytery of Newton were approved.

A committee to bring in a minute relating to the work of the American Bible Society was appointed as follows, viz.: Rev. John Woodbridge, D.D., Rev. P. A. Studdiford, D.D., Rev. Henry M. Booth, Elder Theodore Little.

Synod then took recess until 7:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 7:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

After devotional exercises, addresses were delivered as follows, viz.: On Education, by Dr. Roberts; on Church

Erection, by Dr. Few Smith; on Foreign Missions, by William Rankin, Esq.; on German Theological School, by Dr. Knox; on the work of the American and Foreign Christian Union, by Rev. George L. Hovey.

The presence in the city of the Rev. George Müller of England, having been announced, the Committee of Arrangements was requested to invite the Rev. Mr. Müller to address the Synod at such time as may be most convenient.

Synod adjourned until Thursday, at 8:30 A. M.

Session closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 18th, 8:30 A. M.

Synod met, pursuant to adjournment, and spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

The minutes of the proceedings of the previous day were then read, amended and approved.

The Stated Clerk was authorized to purchase a new book in which to record the proceedings of Synod.

The Judicial Committee reported judicial case No. 3, as follows, viz.:

This paper is styled an appeal, and is presented by the Rev. I. M. See against certain action of the Presbytery of Newark, taken on July 5, 1877.

The Book of Discipline (Chap. VII, Sec. 3, Par. 2,) confines appeals to persons who have submitted to a regular trial in an inferior judicatory. Inasmuch as the minutes of the Presbytery show that there was no trial at all submitted to by Mr. See in the case referred to, but simply a series of resolutions adopted after a conference held by the Presbytery with Mr. See and his Church, there is no ground for an appeal.

Your committee would therefore recommend that the case be taken up as a *complaint*, and that the following order be observed:

1. To read the resolutions adopted by the Presbytery at its meeting, July 5, 1877, among which are those complained of.

2. To read the reasons of Mr. See for his complaint against the same.

3. To read the record of the Presbytery in the case.

4. To hear Mr. See himself and by his counsel.

5. To hear the committee appointed to defend the Presbytery in this matter.

6. To hear the members of the Presbytery of Newark in explanation of the grounds of their assent to, or of their dissent from the same.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Judicial Committee also reported judicial case No. 4, being: The appeal of Rev. John Miller from the decision of the Presbytery of New Brunswick in his case, rendered May 4, 1877.

This appeal is found to be in order, and your committee recommend that it be taken up and that the following order be observed:

1. To read the sentence of the Presbytery of New Brunswick appealed from.

2. To read the reasons which are assigned by Mr. Miller for his appeal.

3. To read the whole record of the proceedings of the Presbytery in the case, including all the testimony, and the reasons of their decision.

4. To hear the original parties.

5. To hear any of the members of the Presbytery in explanation of the grounds of their decision, or of their dissent from it.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

The consideration of judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2 was resumed.

The Moderator reminded the members of Synod that they were now sitting in judicial capacity, and enjoined upon them to regard their high character as a court of Jesus Christ.

Upon the request of the Rev. Dr. Craven, the following statement with reference to the points of order raised by Rev. J. H. Clark, was ordered to be placed upon the minutes:

Dr. Craven stated that it was a matter immaterial to him whether he was heard as an *appellant* or *complainant*. His paper was entitled an appeal *or* complaint, in order that he might be heard in either charac-

ter, as might be directed by the Synod. It was his preference to be heard as a complainant.

Dr. Craven then resumed his argument, pending which Synod took recess until 2:30 P. M.

THURSDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

Dr. Craven continued his argument to conclusion.

Rev. I. M. See then announced that his case would be presented to Synod by his counsel, Rev. Messrs. C. T. Haley and J. H. McIlvaine, D.D.

Rev. Mr. Haley was then heard in behalf of Mr. See, until the hour for recess.

The session was extended for the transaction of necessary business, as follows:

The Committee of Arrangements reported, recommending that an invitation be extended to the Rev. George Müller to address Synod on Friday morning at half-past eight o'clock. The recommendation was adopted.

Resolved, That the report on Women's Work for Foreign and Home Missions be the first order of the day for Friday morning, after the address of Mr. Müller.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported that there had been but one paper submitted to the committee, viz.: a petition from the Second Church of Cranbury to be set over from the Presbytery of Monmouth to the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and that the petitioners had requested permission to withdraw their application. The committee recommend that the request be granted.

The report was accepted and adopted.

Resolved, That Rev. A. Erdman be heard in behalf of the Committee on Freedmen for five minutes after the first order to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That the Narrative of the State of Religion be read immediately after Mr. Erdman's address.

The minutes of the Presbytery of Jersey City were approved.

Synod took recess until 7:30 P. M.

THURSDAY, 7:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

The minutes of the Presbyteries of Monmouth, West Jersey and New Brunswick were approved.

The minutes of the Presbytery of Morris and Orange were approved, with the following exception, viz.:

Thus far examined and approved in Synod at Newark, with the exception of the too frequent interlineations, which deface the records and impair their value.

The committee appointed to bring in a minute with reference to the work of the American Bible Society, presented a report, which was accepted and placed upon the docket.

Rev. Samuel Miller, D.D., and Elder William Elmer, M.D., were appointed a committee to obtain such legislation as may be necessary to enable such Churches as desire it, to hold their property in the name of their ordained officers.

JUDICIAL BUSINESS RESUMED.

Rev. C. T. Haley being absent, Dr. J. H. McIlvaine, counsel for Rev. I. M. See, addressed the Synod.

Dr. McIlvaine proposing to read from the address of Mr. See before the Presbytery of Newark, to show his views upon the matter for which he was condemned, the point of order was raised that said address, not being a part of the record in the case, could not be read.

The Moderator declared the point of order to be well taken, and Dr. McIlvaine entered a dissent and protest against the ruling.

Pending the argument of Dr. McIlvaine, the Synod adjourned until Friday morning at half-past eight o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY, October 19th, 8:30 A. M.

Synod met, pursuant to adjournment, and spent half an hour in devotional exercises, in connection with which the Rev. George Müller made an address.

Synod then came to order for business.

The minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

The Rev. D. W. Lathrop and Rev. N. B. King, of the Synod of New York, and the Rev. James McDougall, of the Synod of Long Island, being present, were invited to sit as Corresponding Members.

A report was read respecting Woman's Work for Foreign Missions in the Synod of New Jersey.

Also a report respecting Woman's Work for Home Missions in the Synod.

Resolved (1), That Synod heartily approves of the work of the women for these great objects, and prays for God's blessing upon its further prosecution.

Resolved (2), That both reports be printed in the appendix to the minutes.

Rev. A. Erdman then addressed Synod in behalf of Freedmen.

The Narrative of the State of Religion in the bounds of the Synod was read, accepted, amended and adopted; and it was ordered that it be printed in the appendix to the minutes, and be sent to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

The following telegraphic dispatch was received from the Synod of New York, in session at Newburg, N. Y.:

NEWBURG, N. Y., October 18th, 1877.

To the Moderator of the Synod of New Jersey:

The Synod of New York gratefully receives and cordially reciprocates the fraternal greeting of their brethren of the Synod of New Jersey.

See I. Cor. xv, 58.

NATHANIEL W. CONKLIN, *Moderator.*

O. M. JONNSON, *Stated Clerk.*

The consideration of judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2 was resumed, and Dr. J. H. McIlvaine continued his argument until the hour for recess.

The session was extended for five minutes.

Resolutions having been offered with reference to the adjournment of Synod, the matter was laid upon the table to await the action of the Committee of Arrangements, which was directed to report immediately after recess.

Synod took recess until 2:30 P. M.

FRIDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

The Committe of Arrangements reported that—

The Committees of Arrangements and of Entertainment, after conference, would say that if it is the pleasure of the Synod to adjourn to meet here on Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, they are of opinion that the Churches of this city will be happy to entertain the members, as hitherto, and that the committees will make all needful arrangements to that effect.

The report was accepted, and it was—

Resolved, That at the close of this evening's session, Synod will adjourn, to meet in this place on Tuesday afternoon next, 23d inst., at three o'clock.

Judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2 were then resumed.

Rev. C. T. Haley requested that the counsel for Mr. See have the privilege of speaking after the committee to defend the action of Presbytery has been heard as provided for in the order of Synod.

Resolved, That the counsel of Mr. See have the privilege of speaking as requested, for thirty minutes.

Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., then addressed the Synod in defense of the action of the Presbytery.

Rev. P. de Veuve, a member of the committee to defend the action of Presbytery, also addressed the Synod.

Rev. E. B. Hodge was added to the committee to obtain legislation with regard to Church property, and was made chairman of the committee.

Synod then took recess until 7:30 P. M.

FRIDAY, 7:30 P. M.

After recess, judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2 were resumed.

Dr. E. R. Craven spoke in further explanation of the action of the Presbytery.

Rev. J. H. McIlvaine, D.D., then addressed the Synod in behalf of Rev. Mr. See.

Rev. C. T. Haley also spoke in behalf of Mr. See.

The members of the Presbytery of Newark were then heard in explanation of the grounds of their decision, or of their dissent from it.

All the parties having been fully heard, the original parties and all the members of the inferior judicatory then withdrew.

Resolved, That in the further prosecution of this case, members of Synod be allowed to speak but three minutes each.

The roll was then called that members might have an opportunity to express their opinion on the case.

The final vote was then taken.

First, upon the complaint of Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., as to the first point in the decision of the Presbytery. The result of the vote was as follows:

To sustain the complaint	16
Not to sustain the complaint	102

Upon the third point in the decision of the Presbytery, the vote was as follows:

To sustain the complaint	13
Not to sustain the complaint	99
To sustain the complaint in part	3

Upon the appeal of the Rev. Isaac M. See, as to the first point in the decision of the Presbytery, the vote was as follows:

To sustain the appeal	20
Not to sustain the appeal	94
To sustain the appeal in part	2
To remit for a new trial	1
Non liquit	1

As to the fourth point in the decision of the Presbytery, the vote was as follows:

To sustain the appeal	37
Not to sustain the appeal	77
To remit for a new trial	1
To remit for the purpose of amending the record	3

The Moderator announced that the complaint of the Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., against the decision of the Presbytery of Newark, and the appeal of the Rev. Isaac M. See from the same decision, were not sustained.

Resolved, That a committee of three ministers and two ruling elders be appointed to bring in a minute expressing the views of Synod on these cases.

Synod then adjourned to meet on Tuesday, the 23d inst., at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Session closed with prayer.

NEWARK, N. J., Tuesday, Oct. 23, 3 o'clock P. M.

Synod met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Presbytery of Elizabeth.

MINISTERS.

WILLIAM W. BLAUVELT, D.D. (2),
ROBERT STREET,
EDWIN H. REINHART,
JAMES M. BRUEN,
JOHN F. PINGRY, Ph. D.,
CHARLES MILNE,
THEODORE S. BROWN,
EVERARD KEMPSHALL, D.D.,
DAVID H. PIERSON, Ph. D.,
WILLIAM C. ROBERTS, D.D.,
ALEXANDER MCKELVEY,
ISAAC A. BLAUVELT,
JOHN A. LIGGETT,
JOHN JAY POMEROY,
JOHN EWING,
JOHN C. BLISS,
KNEELAND P. KETCHAM,
WILLIAM T. CARR,
AARON PECK,
HENRY W. TELLER,
JAMES DEHART BRUEN,
JAMES W. SHEARER,
EDWARD C. RAY,
WILLIAM H. ROBERTS,
JOHN RUDOLPH,
ASAHEL S. CLARK,
HUGH SMYTHE,
JAMES G. MASON.

Total, 28.

RULING ELDERS.

HENRY RACE,
T. F. HUNT, M.D.,
JOHN T. CLARKSON,
SAMUEL MILLIKEN, JR.,

Charles H. Langdon,
Keen Pruden,
William P. Thompson,
James H. Day.
Jonathan Woodruff,
Thomas R. White,
C. H. Sommers,
Total, 11.

Presbytery of Jersey City.

MINISTERS.

James C. Edwards,
Stephen S. Goodman,
Edward W. French,
Charles D. Shaw,
John P. Hale,
Charles K. Imbrie, D.D.,
Oliver B. Bidwell,
David Magie, D.D.,
John R. Fisher,
Samuel M. Jackson.
Total, 10.

RULING ELDER.

Charles A. Dewitt. Total, 1.

Presbytery of Monmouth.

MINISTERS.

Charles F. Worrell, D.D.,
Samuel Miller, D.D.,
Alfred H. Dashiel, Jr.,
E. J. Pierce,
Frank Chandler,
Benj. S. Everitt,
Joseph S. VanDyke,
James M. Anderson,
Henry R. Hall,
James M. Denton,
L. R. Fox,
Benjamin T. Phillips,
Thaddeus Wilson,
J. B. Davis,
Joseph G. Symmes,
Donald McLaren,
Robert J. Burtt,
E. B. Hodge,
John Hancock,
J. Hall McIlvaine,
R. Randall Hoes (2),
E. E. Moran.
Total, 22.

RULING ELDERS.

A. L. Kelly,
Ezekiel Silvers,
Wm. H. Courter,
Derrick G. Perrine,
Andrew Perrine,
John VanDoren.
Total, 6.

Presbytery of Morris and Orange.

MINISTERS.

Joseph M. Ogden, D.D.,
Burtis C. Megie, D.D.,
David McGee Bardwell,
Robert Aikman, D.D.,
Charles C. Parker, D.D.,
Elijah W. Stoddard,
James F. Brewster,
Eldridge Mix,
Albert Erdman,
Julius S. Danner,
James H. Marr,
James M. Hunting,
Henry M. Grant (2),
Pearce Rodgers,
Daniel W. Fox,
James W. Hillman,
W. J. Henderson,
John L. Chapman,
Daniel E. Megie,
David Irving, D.D.,
Nathaniel Conklin,
O. H. Perry Deyo,
Wm. Henry Kirk,
Robert S. Feagles,
Alfred Yeomans,
Thomas Carter,
I. Williams Cochrane,
James A. Ferguson (2),
John H. Worcester,
David E. Platter,
Edward P. Linnell (3),
Henry F. Hickok,
Rufus S. Green,
T. E. Davis.

Total, 34.

RULING ELDERS.

William Ward (2),
Theodore Little,
Stephen Wickes, M.D.,
L. P. Stone,
David H. Hamilton,
M. Mitchell,
Joseph C. Potts,
H. H. Ward,
George E. Righter,
William H. Kitchell.

Total, 10.

Presbytery of Newark.

MINISTERS.

Horace N. Brinsmade, D.D.,
Robert B. Campfield,
Jonathan F. Stearns, D.D.,
James P. Wilson, D.D.,
A. Cogswell Frissell (2),
Wm. T. Findley, D.D.,
Elijah R. Craven, D.D.,
Isaac M. See,
Isaac McIlvaine,
Samuel Hutchings,
Duncan Kennedy, D.D.,
Joshua H. McIlvaine, D.D.,
Joseph Few Smith, D.D.,
James S. Evans, D.D.,
J. Romeyn Berry, D.D.,
William W. McNair (2),

Prentiss de Veuve,
George C. Seibert, D.D. (2),
Isaiah B. Hopwood,
George C. Pollock,
John M. Ensslin,
Julius H. Wolff,
L. H. Baldwin.
Charles T. Haley,
Henry W. Ballantine,
Charles E. Knox, D.D.,
Charles T. Berry,
Martin F. Hollister,
Isaac W. Davenport,
Total, 29.

RULING ELDERS.

C. Peloubet,
Joseph N. Tuttle,
Job Haines,
Aaron O. Price,
W. F. VanWagenen,
Anthony Mandeville.
Frederick Crane,
Lorenzo Boyden,
I. M. Harrison,
E. P. Nichols,
William Jenkins,
Total, 11.

Presbytery of New Brunswick.

MINISTERS.

Ravaud K. Rodgers, D.D.,
Cornelius S. Conkling,
John Miller,
John T. Duffield, D.D.,
George S. Mott, D.D. (2),
P. Augustus Studdiford, D.D.,
S. M. Studdiford,
John S. Beekman,
Job D. Randolph,
Daniel R. Foster,
William Swan,
Alexander Miller,
Alexander T. McGill, D.D.,
George Sheldon, D.D.,
John Woodbridge, D.D.,
A. Gosman, D.D.,
Charles A. Aiken, D.D.,
Amzi L. Armstrong,
Thomas Nichols,
J. H. Schofield,
A. A. Hodge, D.D.,
Lewis W. Mudge,
I. Van Wart Schenck,
Charles S. Converse.
Total, 24.

RULING ELDERS.

S. C. Barber,
Peter Davis,
George M. Maclean, M. D.,
J. G. VanDyke,
William Rust,
B. Pickel.
Total, 6.

Presbytery of Newton.

MINISTERS.

Frederick Knighton, D.D.,	J. Addison Priest, D.D.,
Henry E. Spayd,	Thomas McCauley,
William Thomson,	H. Brown Scott,
William B. McKee,	John B. Kugler,
James M. Maxwell,	William A. Holliday,
Thomas S. Long,	John F. Pollock,
Charles E. Burns,	J. F. Shaw.

Total, 14.

RULING ELDERS.

William H. Morrow,	J. G. Shipman,
Charles E. Vail,	Daniel Wyker.

Total, 4.

Presbytery of West Jersey.

MINISTERS.

John O. Wells,	Allen H. Brown,
Edward P. Shields,	Lewis C. Baker,
Oliver B. McCurdy,	William S. Frackleton.

Total, 6.

RULING ELDERS.

[None.]

SUMMARY.

Ministers	167
Ruling Elders	49
Total	216

The minutes of the proceedings of Friday were read and approved.

Rev. C. T. Haley gave notice that he would enter a dissent to the method in which the vote was taken by the Synod in the case of Rev. I. M. See.

Rev. John Woodbridge, D.D., gave notice that he would enter a protest against the finding of Synod in regard to the fourth point of the decision of the Presbytery of Newark, in the case of Mr. See.

The committee appointed by the last Synod to draft an overture to the General Assembly asking the Assembly to consider the propriety of preparing a new Book of Discipline, presented a report.

The report was accepted and placed upon the docket.

Resolved, That the matter of deciding upon a place for the next annual meeting of the Synod, be referred to a committee of two ministers and one elder.

The committee to bring in a minute expressing the views of the Synod in relation to judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2, was announced by the Moderator, as follows, viz.: Rev. Charles K. Imbrie, D.D., Rev. A. A. Hodge, D.D., Rev. Alfred Yeomans, Elder Theodore Little, Esq., Elder William H. Courter, Esq.

Rev. Dr. Burchard, of the Synod of New York, being present, was invited to sit as a Corresponding Member.

A resolution to pay each of the Temporary Clerks fifteen dollars having been offered, the matter was referred to a committee consisting of Rev. J. B. Davis, Rev. David Irving, D.D., and Elder Keen Pruden.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly reported that they found nothing in the minutes calling for action by the Synod, and requested to be discharged.

The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

JUDICIAL BUSINESS RESUMED.

Judicial case No. 3 was taken up, being a complaint of Rev. I. M. See against certain action of the Presbytery of Newark, taken on July 5th, 1877.

The Moderator enjoined due solemnity upon the members of the Synod, according to the requirements of the Book of Discipline.

1. The resolutions of the Presbytery were read.

2. The reasons of Mr. See for his complaint were read.

3. The record of the Presbytery of Newark in the case was read.

4. Rev. I. M. See was heard in part.

Synod took recess until 7:30 P. M.

TUESDAY, 7:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled in judicial capacity.

Rev. I. M. See resumed his argument and concluded.

5. Rev. P. de Veuve addressed the Synod in defense of the Presbytery of Newark.

6. The members of the Presbytery of Newark were then heard in explanation of the grounds of their action.

Synod then adjourned until Wednesday morning at 8½ o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 24th, 8:30 A. M.

Synod met pursuant to adjournment and spent half an hour in devotional exercises, after which business was resumed.

The minutes of the proceedings of the previous day were read and approved.

The minutes of the Presbytery of Elizabeth were approved.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution relating to the salary of the Temporary Clerks, reported,

recommending that the salary of the Temporary Clerks be fifteen dollars per annum.

The recommendation was adopted.

The consideration of judicial case No. 3 was then resumed.

The Moderator again enjoined upon the members to recollect and regard their high character as a court of Jesus Christ, &c.

The original parties having left the house, the roll was called and members of the Synod expressed their opinions in the case.

The final vote was then taken and resulted as follows:

To sustain the complaint of Mr. See	2
Not to sustain the complaint of Mr. See	110
To remit for new trial	1
Excused from voting	3

The Moderator announced the result of the vote and declared that the complaint of Mr. See had not been sustained.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to bring in a minute expressing the views of the Synod in the case.

The minutes of the Presbytery of Newark were approved.

CASE OF REV. JOHN MILLER.

Judicial case No. 4, being the appeal of the Rev. John Miller from the decision of the Presbytery of New Brunswick in his case, rendered May 4, 1877, was then taken up.

The Moderator again enjoined upon the members of Synod to recollect and regard their high character as a court of Jesus Christ, &c.

A resolution was offered to adopt a printed copy of the records of the Presbytery in this case, duly attested by the Stated Clerk, in place of the original written record.

Whereupon the point of order was raised that no paper other than the official record, or an attested copy of the

record, can be presented as the record in an appellate case, save by consent of parties.

The case was then proceeded with in the order adopted by Synod:

1. The sentence of the Presbytery of New Brunswick appealed from was read.

2. The reasons assigned by Rev. John Miller for his appeal were read.

As the Synod was proceeding to the reading of the record of Presbytery in the case, Mr. Miller complained of the incompleteness of the record, declaring that important papers had been omitted.

Whereupon the Moderator ruled that, inasmuch as the minutes of the Presbytery of New Brunswick had been approved in Presbytery, without objection by the appellant, said approved minutes constitute the whole record in the case.

3. The written records of the proceedings of the Presbytery in the case, including all the testimony and the reasons of their decision, were then read, after which Synod took recess until 2:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

Judicial case No. 4 was resumed.

Rev. Samuel Miller, D.D., offered the following as a question of privilege:

In the matter of the appeal of the Rev. John Miller from a sentence of suspension from the ministry by the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

WHEREAS, His right to a seat in this Synod and to the ordinary privileges of a member thereof has been twice denied on this floor; therefore,

Resolved, That the proper operation of this appeal is, and was from the first, to suspend all further proceedings on the ground of the

sentence appealed from; that is, that all Mr. Miller's rights and privileges as a member of Presbytery and Synod, and as a minister of the Gospel, are preserved by his appeal until at least his case has been upon his last appeal finally decided.

The point of order was made that, inasmuch as no decision has been made by Synod as to the standing of the Rev. John Miller, there is no ground for the question of privilege, and it is out of order.

The Moderator so ruled, and an appeal being taken from the Moderator's decision, his ruling was sustained.

Elder Joseph C. Potts, of counsel for Rev. John Miller, then addressed Synod.

At the close of the address of Judge Potts, Rev. Mr. Miller took the floor.

Pending his argument, Synod took recess until 7:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 7:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

The consideration of the judicial case was suspended for fifteen minutes.

The Moderator appointed Rev. J. S. Vandyke, Rev. W. C. Roberts, D.D., and Elder William Rust, a committee to bring in a minute expressing the judgment of the Synod in relation to the complaint of the Rev. Isaac M. See against the action of the Presbytery of Newark.

A paper was presented, purporting to be a petition from Samuel H. Bowman, Esq., a member of the Church of Caldwell. The paper was referred to the Judicial Committee.

REPORT ON GERMAN THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL.

The committee appointed by the last Synod to estimate the sum needed from each Presbytery to meet the expenses

of the German Theological Seminary, presented a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

The committee appointed at the last session of this Synod, of one member from each Presbytery, to make a fair apportionment of the sum needed from each Presbytery to meet the current expenses of the German Theological School of Newark, beg leave to report.

That it has attended to the duties assigned it. The several Churches in the Synod have been addressed on the subject, and considerable interest has been awakened. The amounts received from many of the Presbyteries have not reached the apportionment, but a good beginning has been made, and by a continuance of the effort we hope soon to see all the Churches taking earnest part in the support of an institution whose importance and prosperity are the common heritage of all.

The following amounts have been received from the Presbyteries during the Synodical year just ended, viz., from October to October:

Presbytery of Newark		$3,692 49
"	Morris and Orange	1,469 73
"	Elizabeth	843 75
"	Jersey City	375 91
"	Newton	312 69
"	New Brunswick	381 79
"	Monmouth	336 00
"	West Jersey	229 16
Total		$7,641 52

Your committee therefore recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Synod earnestly commend the interests of the German Theological School of Newark, to all the Churches under its care, and requests that systematic and liberal contributions be made for its support.

Your committee also recommends that another committee, similar to that of last year, be appointed at this session, to promote the interests of the institution in the several Presbyteries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ROMEYN BERRY, *Chairman.*

Resolved, That the committee be continued.

Judicial case No. 4 was then resumed, and Rev. John Miller proceeded with his argument to conclusion.

Synod then adjourned until Thursday morning at 8½ o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 25th, 8:30 A. M.

Synod met pursuant to adjournment.

After half an hour spent in devotional exercises, Synod proceeded to business.

The consideration of judicial case No. 4 was suspended to hear the report of the committee appointed to bring in a minute expressing the views of Synod in relation to judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2.

The report was read and accepted.

A motion to adopt the report was laid upon the table for the present in order to take up judicial case No. 4.

Rev. A. Gosman, D.D., Rev. P. A. Studdiford, D.D., and Rev. John T. Duffield, D.D., were heard in defense of the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

At the close of the morning session it was—

Resolved, That the hearing of this case be resumed in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Resolved, That the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to bring in a minute expressing the views of Synod in relation to judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2, be the first order of the day for the afternoon session.

Synod then took recess until 2:30 P. M.

THURSDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

The first order of the day, which was the report of the committee to bring in a minute relating to judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2, was taken up. Pending the discussion upon this report, it was—

Resolved, That this matter be laid aside for the present, in order to take up judicial case No. 4.

Dr. Duffield concluded his argument in defense of the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

Synod then took recess until 7:30 P. M.

THURSDAY, 7:30 P. M.

Synod re-assembled.

Judicial business was suspended.

The report upon the work of the American Bible Society was taken from the docket. The several items of the report were considered *seriatim* and adopted. The report is as follows:

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Resolved, 1, That this Synod, with devout gratitude to Almighty God, recognizes that the Presbyterian Church has borne uniform testimony to the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the only and all-sufficient rule of faith and practice; and once more, in the conflict of opinions and the strife of tongues now agitating the world, we solemnly reiterate our unfaltering adherence to this article of our faith.

2. Thankful that so largely the members and friends of the American Bible Society and its auxiliaries have been of the Presbyterian communion, we urge upon our sessions and people a hearty, liberal and prayerful co-operation in the plans of that society to give the Bible the widest circulation at home and abroad.

3. That in the great and Christian duty of giving to all the people of our State who are without it, God's Holy Word, the Synod highly approves of what is known as the volunteer plan of distribution, whereby, whenever practicable, the members of our Churches, male and female, are organized in the delightful work of giving the Sacred Scriptures to those within their reach.

4. Regarding the Scriptures as the Divine Text Book for the instruction of coming generations, whether in the family or the school or the college, we protest against every attempt to exclude the Word of the only wise God from the public schools and agencies which are to shape the future of the race.

5. That while the Synod rejoices in the many helps to the study of the Word provided for Sabbath School teachers and scholars, yet we have heard, not without solicitude, that the number of copies of the Scriptures furnished Sabbath Schools has greatly decreased since the introduction of the lesson leaves. As these leaves are fragmentary and easily lost or destroyed, they are not a safe or sufficient substitute for the complete copies of the Scriptures, with which every son and daughter of the Bible-loving Presbyterian Church ought, from a child, to be familiar.

The report of the committee to draft an overture to be sent to the General Assembly, on the subject of the revision of the Book of Discipline, was taken from the docket, and having been amended by the omission of the paragraph relating to courts of appeal, it was adopted and ordered to be sent to the General Assembly.

OVERTURE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Synod of New Jersey would respectfully overture the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America to consider the propriety of appointing a committee to prepare a new book, to be considered by some future Assembly, and if approved by them, to be overtured to the Presbyteries for their adoption as a part of the Constitution of our Church.

The Synod would represent that, in their judgment, the present book is seriously faulty in the following respects:

I. It is *defective in general scope.*

The parts of a Book of Discipline (distinct from the enunciation of general principles, which in our book are exceedingly meagre) should,

in the judgment of Synod, be *three*, treating respectively of—(1) Patriarchal; (2) Forensic; (3) Corrective Discipline.

The *first* of these, viz.: Patriarchal Discipline, relates to the watch and care which sessions should exercise over the Church members committed to their charge, and the watch and care of Presbyteries over their members and the Churches under their oversight.

2. The *second*, or Forensic Discipline, relates to forms of procedure in courts of original jurisdiction where offense has been denied, or Patriarchal Discipline has failed to remove offense. It also relates to the modes of removing cases already decided in inferior courts, to superior; the nature of appeals and complaints, and the modes of procedure in reference to them.

3. The *third*, or Corrective Discipline, relates to Church censures and the modes of their infliction and removal.

The *first* of these, or Patriarchal Discipline, is altogether ignored in our standard.s The sole reference to the subject is in Book of Discipline, Ch. II, 2, Par. 1, as follows: "Private offenses ought not to be immediately prosecuted before a Church judicatory, because the objects of discipline may be quite as well, and, in many cases, much better attained by a different course." That the *sole* reference of this clause is not to the *private* steps of one cognizant of an offense—that some patriarchal act of Presbytery or Session is alluded to—is manifest; and yet there is no declaration as to what that "different course" is.

Corrective Discipline, strange to say, is not at all treated of in our Book of Discipline. We must seek for all our Church declares on this important subject, in Ch. XXX of the Confessions of Faith, which treats of Church Censures; and Ch. X of the Directory for Worship, which treats of The Mode of Inflicting Church Censures. In neither of these, it may further be remarked, are *official* censures, viz., Suspension and deposition from office, mentioned; and in the Directory for Worship no mention is made of the mode of inflicting the censure of admonition.

In conclusion of this part of the subject, it may be remarked that our book, lacking all mention of Patriarchal and Corrective Discipline, is little more than a book prescribing modes of process, appeal and complaint.

II. In the second place our book is *faulty* in that it is *redundant*.

Chapter VII, Sec. 1, which treats of General Review and Control; Ch. X, which treats of Jurisdiction; and Ch. XI, entitled Limitation of Time (with the exception of Art. 5), clearly belong to the Form of Government.

III. Our book is faulty in a third respect, in that it restricts too much the power of a court of original jurisdiction (Presbytery and Session).

It prescribes but *two* modes in which process can be originated—(1) by private accusation, and (2) by common fame.

The method by common fame is the only one open to the court. Common fame is thus defined, Ch. III, 5: "The rumor must specify some particular sin or sins; it must be general or widely spread; it must not be transient, but permanent, and rather gaining strength than declining; and it must be accompanied with strong presumption of truth." Our book well adds after the foregoing definition: "Taking up charges on this ground of course requires great caution, and the exercise of much Christian prudence."

Between the two modes of procedure—process by private accusation and common fame—many offenders escape censure altogether, to their own injury and the injury of the Church. It scarce ever happens that an *individual* will institute process save in case of personal injury, and that for the following reasons:

1. In a large number of cases there is no individual, even when public rumor prevails, who is possessed of sufficient evidence of a crime to justify him in instituting process.

2. When individuals possess knowledge they are often unfit to prosecute. There are but few persons thus gifted. A private accuser, under the requirements of our book, must first see and converse with the offender (save where the offense is *public*); he must himself prepare and table a charge which he must be prepared to substantiate under the possible penalty of being himself censured as a slanderer; he must himself prosecute the case, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and sum up the case. Our book, be it observed, makes no provision for a counsel for the accuser, although it does for the accused. Should the accused be condemned and then appeal, the accuser becomes the appellee, and he must follow the appellant through all the mazes of the superior courts.

3. Of those who, by nature and training, are fitted to prosecute, few will incur the labor, vexation, odium, and often expense of enacting the part of a private prosecutor.

4. The generally diffused idea in the community is that no prosecution, save for a *personal* offense, should be instituted by other than by a regularly appointed prosecutor. This idea is at once begotten and fostered by the peculiarities of our municipal systems, from which our people receive their ideas of the proprieties of judicial procedure.

IV. Our book is faulty in a fourth respect, in that in cases of common fame it requires a session or Presbytery to enact the part of a *trying* court after it has performed the office of a *presenting* court. Under the article setting forth the law concerning common fame, Ch. III, 5, the court must first declare that a man is probably guilty before they

can proceed to try him. This is against every principle of justice as it exists naturally in the human breast and as it has been fostered by the immemorial practice of our municipal courts, which forbids one who has been a member of the grand jury that presents a man as probably guilty, to sit on the jury that tries him.

The only proper course, as it seems to the Synod, is, in all cases of forensic prosecution, to have the body to whom is committed the exercise of patriarchal discipline (Presbytery or session), when they have found their efforts fail to remove an offense, act as a grand jury and present the case to the superior body (Presbytery or Synod). In such case the issue to be tried by a special court appointed by the superior body, the representative of the presenting court acting as prosecutor.

E. R. CRAVEN.

Judicial business was then resumed, and Synod proceeded with judicial case No. 4.

The appellant was heard in reply to the arguments of the committee to defend the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

Other members of the Presbytery of New Brunswick were then heard in explanation of their action in the case, pending which Synod adjourned until Friday morning at $8\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock.

Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY, Oct. 25, 8:30 A. M.

Synod re-assembled.

Half an hour was spent in devotional exercises. Synod then resumed business.

The minutes of the proceedings of the previous day were read and approved.

JUDICIAL CASE NO. 5.

The Judicial Committee reported judicial case No. 5.

The report of the committee was accepted and adopted, and is as follows;

The Judicial Committee respectfully report judicial case No. 5. This paper is in the form of a *petition* from Mr. Samuel H. Bowman, a

member of the Presbyterian Church of Caldwell, N. J., asking that the Synod should order the session of that Church to have the petitioner tried, on certain matters, before the Presbytery of Newark.

The case is as follows: Mr. Bowman had been accused, by common fame, of certain misconduct, and arraigned before the session of the Caldwell Church and suspended. The case came before the Presbytery of Newark. Before the proceedings in Presbytery were actually finished, the session of the Church, in anticipation of a direction from Presbytery to that effect, released the accused from the sentence of suspension, by a public notice read from the pulpit, with acknowledgment on the part of the session that the charges had not been legally proved. The accused afterwards demanded a *new* trial by the session, deeming himself injured by not having been formally pronounced *innocent* of the charges. The session, for certain reasons, have not acceded to his request. The accused then presented the case to the Presbytery, and the Presbytery, after hearing it, ordered the papers to be returned to your petitioner, with the advice to apply again to the session for a trial. Mr. Bowman declined to receive his papers; and he now petitions the Synod to order the session of the Church of Caldwell to send up all the documents to the Presbytery of Newark, in order that he may be tried before *them*.

Inasmuch as the Presbytery of Newark is the proper body to whom the petitioner should present his complaint, and in case the session of the Church declines to render the petitioner proper justice, your committee recommend that the papers be returned to the petitioner, and that he be directed to lay his complaint before the Presbytery of Newark—if he cannot get a trial from the session of the Church of Caldwell—that the Presbytery may take such order as to them shall seem wise in the matter.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

The Committee on Next Place of Meeting reported that an invitation had been received from the South Street Church of Morristown, and recommended that Synod accept said invitation, and that when Synod adjourns it be to meet in said Church, on the third Tuesday of October, 1878, at 3 o'clock P. M. The report was accepted and adopted.

The pastors of the Morristown Churches, and the elders representing said Churches in the next Synod, were appointed the Committee of Arrangements for the next annual meeting of Synod.

Resolved, That when a minute in relation to judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2 shall be adopted, the order of the day shall be to hear the report of the committee appointed to bring in a minute expressing the views of the Synod in relation to judicial case No. 3.

The committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts, reported that they had performed the duty assigned to them, and found the accounts correct as compared with the vouchers accompanying them, with a balance due the Treasurer of $7.27. They also recommended that the expenses of Synod be divided among the Presbyteries as follows, viz.:

Presbytery of Elizabeth	$45 00
" " Jersey City	40 00
" " Monmouth	40 00
" " Morris and Orange	45 00
" " Newark	50 00
" " New Brunswick	50 00
" " Newton	40 00
" " West Jersey	40 00

The report was accepted and adopted.

Elders John VanDoren and George M. Maclean, M.D., were appointed as a committee to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of the Standing Committee on Church Extension and Home Missions.

Resolved, That the Roll of Ministers, Elders and Churches be omitted from the appendix to the printed minutes this year.

The matter of the exception to the minutes of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, laid over from last year, was taken up and again postponed until the next meeting of Synod.

The consideration of judicial case No. 4 was then resumed. The members of the Presbytery of New Brunswick were heard in explanation of their action in the case until the roll was completed.

The original parties then withdrew.

The Temporary Clerk, the Rev. William Swan, being a member of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, having retired with his Presbytery, the Rev. Edward W. French was elected to act as Temporary Clerk *pro tem.*

The roll of the Synod was then called, that the members might have an opportunity to express their opinion upon the case, pending which Synod took recess until 2:30 P. M.

FRIDAY, 2:30 P. M.

The Synod re-assembled.

The roll call, interrupted by the recess, was resumed, and continued until the roll was completed.

The final vote was then taken, with the following result, viz.:

To sustain the appeal	None.
Not to sustain the appeal	100
To remit for the purpose of amending the record	2
Excused from voting	4

The original parties in this case returned to the house.

The Moderator announced the result of the vote, and declared the appeal of the Rev. John Miller from the decision of the Presbytery of New Brunswick not sustained.

Rev. J. F. Stearnes, D.D., Rev. Robert Aikman, D.D., Rev. T. S. Brown, and Elders Charles E. Vail and Matthias Mitchel, were appointed a committee to bring in a minute expressing the views of Synod in this case.

The report of the committee on judicial cases Nos. 1 and 2 was taken from the table, amended and adopted, and is as follows:

The committee appointed to bring in a minute in reference to the complaint of the Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., and the appeal of the Rev. I. M. See, against the decision of the Presbytery of Newark, made

January 3d, 1877, respectfully report the following, recommending its adoption:

The roll being called in order to the final vote, the vote was first taken according to the resolution of Synod, on the complaint of the Rev. Dr. Craven in the reference made by it to the separate paragraphs of the decision of Presbytery.

The complaint referred to the first and third paragraphs of the decision only, and the vote on these was as follows:

To sustain the complaint in reference to the first paragraph, 16; not to sustain, 102; to sustain the complaint in reference to third paragraph, 13; not to sustain, 99; to sustain in part, 2. The complaint of the Rev. E. R. Craven, DD., against the decision of the Presbytery of Newark, is therefore hereby declared not sustained.

The vote was then taken in the same manner on the appeal of the Rev. I. M. See against the same decision of Presbytery. Mr. See's appeal was directed against the first and fourth paragraphs of the Presbytery's decision. The vote on this appeal was as follows: To sustain the appeal in reference to the first paragraph, 20; not to sustain, 94; to sustain in part, 2; to remit for a new trial, 1; *non liquit*, 1; to sustain the appeal in reference to the fourth paragraph, 37; not to sustain, 77; to remit for a new trial, 1; to remit for amending the record, 3. The appeal of the Rev. I. M. See against the Presbytery of Newark in this case, is therefore hereby declared not sustained.

The Synod deems it necessary to state that this method of taking the vote upon the separate paragraphs of the decision of Presbytery was adopted because of the peculiar form of the decision. The said decision consists of four independent paragraphs, the first of which alone refers to the charge made against Mr. See, and the other three are added in reference to certain related matters which came into prominence during the trial, and upon which the Presbytery deemed it needful to express their opinion; and two of which are referred to in the complaint and the appeal. In order to an intelligible decision being given by the Synod, it was thus necessary that the Synod should vote on it according to the paragraphs of the same referred to in the complaint and in the appeal. The Synod, in refusing to sustain the appeal against the fifth paragraph of the decision, intend to sanction the right of a Presbytery, without actual process, to admonish a member for words spoken in its open meetings; but the Synod does not sanction the action of Presbytery in not putting on record the very language used, since, by such neglect, the Synod, in case of appeal, has no proper evidence on which to review the action of the Presbytery; nor does the Synod approve of the insertion in judicial

sentence of an admonition for an offense altogether foreign to the charges which are under investigation.

In sustaining the Presbytery of Newark as against the complaint of Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., and the appeal of the Rev. I. M. See, the Synod holds that the passages of Scripture referred to in the action of the Presbytery, do prohibit the fulfilling by women of the offices of public preachers in the regular assemblies of the Church. And while it is admitted that a different interpretation of them may be honestly held, the Synod nevertheless thinks that the inviting and permitting of women to preach at the regular public services of the Church is irregular and unwise, and contrary to the views of the Scripture and of the Church order derived from them, as ordinarily held among us. And, as such conduct may open the way to disorder and mischief, the Synod affectionately counsels, admonishes and enjoins all the ministers within its bounds to act in accordance with the deliverance of the General Assembly on this subject.

While maintaining this position, the Synod would hereby put on record its high appreciation of the services of women in other departments of Christian evangelization and benevolence, and their sense of the large indebtedness of every good cause to their sympathy and co-operation.

As to the modes in which these services may be employed, the Synod commits this whole subject, within the limits expressed above, to the discretion of the session of the Churches, subject, of course, like all other matters, to the review and control of their Presbyteries.

The committee appointed to bring in a minute expressing the views of Synod in judicial case No. 3, presented a report which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee appointed to bring in a minute expressive of the sense of the Synod in the vote rendered upon the complaint of the Rev. I. M. See against the Presbytery of Newark, for enjoining him "to cease at once the presentation of those peculiar views with reference to direct communication from God and the absolute keeping of the believer from sin, and those practices in connection with the special meetings denominated 'meetings for the promotion of holiness,' out of which the troubles in the Church have largely grown," beg leave respectfully to report: That in declining to sustain the complaint, as has been done by a vote of one hundred and ten against three, the Synod, whilst expressing the greatest sympathy with the Rev. I. M. See in his aspirations after intimate communion with God

and the highest attainments in the divine life; and whilst it heartily endorses him in urging upon his people to aim at becoming holy as God is holy, is nevertheless in entire accord with the Presbytery in earnestly and affectionately reminding the brother that there are many and dangerous errors connected with, if not indeed inherent, in the doctrine popularly known as The Higher Life, Christian Perfection, or Perfect Love. Prominent among these are the errors mentioned in the injunction of Presbytery.

And since, from the presentation of these peculiar views, and from the holding of "meetings for the promotion of holiness," have largely grown the troubles in Wickliffe Church, therefore the Synod affectionately counsels the brother to accept all the advice of the Presbytery as kind, pertinent and wise, and act upon the same.

JOS. S. VAN DYKE,
WM. C. ROBERTS,
WM. RUST.

The committee appointed to bring in a suitable minute to be adopted in relation to judicial case No. 4, presented a report which was accepted, amended, and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Synod having refused to sustain the appeal of the Rev. John Miller from the decision of the Presbytery of New Brunswick in his case by the following vote, viz.: To sustain the appeal, none; not to sustain the appeal, 100; to remit for the purpose of amending the record, 2; excused from voting, 4; desires to be understood as endorsing the sentence of suspension by the Presbytery, and emphatically condemning the distinctive doctrines of his book, entitled "Questions awakened by the Bible," as wholly repugnant to the Scriptures and to the standards of the Presbyterian Church. Nevertheless, in view of the fact that Mr. Miller seems to have misapprehended the real importance of those doctrines and their intimate relation to the great essential doctrines of grace, and that he wholly disclaims any intention of promulgating opinions inconsistent with either the Calvinistic or the Evangelical system of Divine truth, and hoping that further time for undisturbed study and reflection may, in God's providence and by His grace, change his views: The Synod earnestly recommends to the Presbytery such action, if any be possible, as shall induce Mr. Miller calmly to review his opinions upon these great vital topics.

The time for recess having arrived, it was—

Resolved, To continue in session until the final adjournment.

The reports of the committees appointed to bring in minutes relating to judicial cases Nos. 1, 2 and 3, were read in the hearing of the original parties.

Rev. I. M. See gave notice of his intention to appeal from the decision of the Synod to the General Assembly, as follows, viz.:

The undersigned respectfully begs leave to give notice to the Synod of New Jersey of his intention to appeal to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, against the decision of said Synod in the case of his appeal from the sentence of the Presbytery of Newark, January 3d, 1877, as unconstitutional, irregular, and, for reasons to be given, injurious to this appellant.

He will, therefore, lodge his appeal with the proper officer within the constitutional limit of time.

ISAAC M. SEE.

NEWARK, N. J., Oct. 26th. 1877.

A committee to defend the action of the Synod in judicial case No. 2, before the General Assembly, was appointed as follows, viz.: Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., Rev. A. Gosman, D.D., Rev. William C. Roberts, D.D., Elder Theodore Little, Esq.

The report of the committee on judicial case No. 4 was read in the hearing of the original parties.

Rev. John Miller gave notice of appeal as follows, viz.:

The undersigned begs leave respectfully to give notice of an appeal to the General Assembly from the decision of the Synod in his case. He will lodge the reasons within the appointed time.

JOHN MILLER.

NEWARK, Oct. 26th, 1877.

A committee to defend the Synod at the General Assembly, in the case of the appeal of the Rev. John Miller, was appointed as follows, viz.: Rev. J. T. Duffield, D.D., Rev.

P. A. Studdiford, D.D., Rev. A. Gosman, D.D., Rev. James P. Wilson, D.D., Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D.

The committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer of the Standing Committee on Church Extension and Home Missions reported that they had attended to the duty assigned to them and found the accounts correct as compared with the vouchers accompanying them, with a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $44.26.

The report was accepted and adopted.

Ordered, That the janitor's bill be paid.

The Stated Clerk was directed to send the Statistical Report of the Synod to the General Assembly.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Synod are hereby tendered to the Pastor and Session of the First Church of Newark; to the Committee of Entertainment, and other citizens of Newark, for their unsparing efforts to promote the comfort of members while attending this protracted meeting of Synod.

The minutes were read and approved.

Synod then adjourned to meet in the South Street Church, Morristown, on the third Tuesday of October, 1878, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Closed with prayer and benediction.

J. B. DAVIS,
Stated Clerk.

APPENDIX.

I.—STATISTICAL REPORTS.

I. PRESBYTERY OF CORISCO.

The Presbytery of Corisco report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of five Ministers and three Churches, and have under their care one Licentiate and four Candidates.

We held our usual annual meeting at Gaboon, Thursday, January 11th, 1877, whereat were present three white and one native minister and two native elders. The Banâkâ tribe, fifty miles north of Benita, are very urgent for any preacher or exhorter, white or colored. These tribes have ceased to despise their own educated children; formerly all the tribes in our mission field objected to them, wishing only white people. There are a few Corisco Church members living at Banâkâ; at the request of the Corisco session their names were transferred to the Benita charge, within whose natural bounds they are living.

Revs. Bushnell, De Heer and Nassau were appointed to prepare for the Presbyterian Historical Society discourses historic of respectively the Gaboon, Corisco and Benita Churches.

Presbytery also directed that the ministerial candidates should spend, under the direction of the pastor or stated supply in whose bounds they lived, about one-fourth of their time in itinerations, and to present to Presbytery reports of such work.

Proposition was made to prohibit native Church members, not in full standing, from taking part in public religious meetings, but, after discussion, the motion was withdrawn. Overture No. 1, from General Assembly, on reduced representation, was answered in the affirmative. Church sessional minutes and registers were all reported on favorably. Mr. J. H. Reading was appointed commissioner to General Assembly.

The subject of Polygamy again arose, the native pastor asking advice as to the treatment of members who fell into that sin, but who otherwise conducted themselves well. Presbytery gave the sin no cover.

At our recent semi-annual meeting on July 3d, at which were present three white and one native minister and two native elders, (Mr. Schorsch being permanently absent in Germany or America, his insanity having necessitated the dissolution of his connection with the *Mission* by the Board of Foreign Missions, but his name remaining on the roll of *Presbytery*,) historic discourses of the Corisco and Benita Churches were presented.

One candidate's name was dropped for disrespect to his teacher and for continued neglect of his studies. Two other candidates were examined and sustained on English Grammar and the Larger Catechism. The free conversation on the state of religion revealed causes for rejoicing and thanksgiving to the Head of the Church.

We have had no deaths, nor dismissals, nor receptions during the year.

R. H. NASSAU, *Stated Clerk.*

Benita, West Africa, July 10th, 1877.

II. THE PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETH

Respectfully reports to the Synod of New Jersey that it consists of forty-eight Ministers, and has under its care thirty Churches, five Licentiates and four Candidates.

Presbytery further reports that on—

April 2d, 1877. It dismissed the Rev. W. S. C. Webster to the Presbytery of Long Island.

April 18th, 1877. It received Rev. Hugh Smythe from the Presbytery of New York.

April 18th, 1877. It received Rev. James G. Mason from the Presbytery of Washington City.

April 18th, 1877. It received Rev. Asahel L. Clark from the Presbytery of Long Island.

April 18th, 1877. It dissolved the West Summit Church.

April 18th, 1877. It received Mr. John Devens under its care as a candidate for the gospel ministry.

April 24th, 1877. Installed the Rev. James G. Mason pastor of Church and congregation of Metuchen.

April 27th, 1877. Installed the Rev. Hugh Smythe pastor of the Second Church and congregation of Elizabeth.

May 7th, 1877. It organized the Madison Avenue Church in the city of Elizabeth.

June 18th, 1877. It deposed the Rev. James B. Patterson from the ministry and suspended him from the communion and sacraments of the Church.

October 3d, 1877. Dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. Aaron Peck with the Church and congregation of Perth Amboy.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. RANKIN, *Stated Clerk.*

III. PRESBYTERY OF JERSEY CITY.

The Presbytery of Jersey City consists of thirty-seven Ministers, and has under its care twenty-six Churches, two Licentiates, and five Candidates.

I. THERE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

April 17th. Rev. O. B. Bidwell, from the Presbytery of New York.
April 17th. Rev. R. H. Wilkinson, from the Presbytery of Detroit.
April 26th. Rev. J. H. Clark, from the Presbytery of Lackawana.

II. IT HAS DISSOLVED THE PASTORAL RELATION.

April 17th. Of the Rev. Albert Ammerman to the First Church of Hackensack.

III. IT HAS ORDAINED AND INSTALLED.

October 10th. Mr. F. O. Zesch, Pastor of the Church at Carlstadt.

IV. IT HAS INSTALLED.

October 11th. Rev. F. O. Zesch, Pastor of the Evangelical Church of Passaic.
October 24th. Rev. R. R. Thompson, Pastor of the Church at Newfoundland.
December 21st. Rev. John Reid, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Hoboken.
April 24th, 1877. Rev. R. H. Wilkinson, Pastor of the First Church of Hackensack.
April 26th, 1877. Rev. O. B. Bidwell, Pastor of the Westminster Church.

Approved by Presbytery, October 2d, 1877.

THOMAS G. WALL, *Stated Clerk.*

IV. PRESBYTERY OF MONMOUTH.

Number of Members	43
" " Churches	40
" " Candidates	3

Nov. 8th, 1876. Dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. L. R. Smith to the Church at Bordentown, and dismissed Mr. Smith to the Presbytery of Dayton.

Nov. 8th, 1876. Dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. M. L. Hofford to the Church of Fairview, and dismissed Mr. Hofford to the Presbytery of Philadelphia North.

Dec. 14th, 1876. Organized the Englishtown Church.

Feb. 19th, 1877. Dissolved the pastoral relation of Rev. John H. Frazee to the Church at Toms River, and dismissed Mr. Frazee to the Presbytery of Westchester.

Mar. 20th, 1877. Organized the Ocean Beach Church.

Apr. 10th, 1877. Received Rev. Donald McLaren from the Presbytery of Brooklyn, and the Rev. George W. Cotrell from the Presbytery of West Jersey.

Apr. 11th, 1877. Dismissed the Rev. William G. Cairnes to the Presbytery of Westminster.

Apr. 11th. 1877. Received the Rev. J. R. Sansom from the Presbytery of Albany.

May 2d, 1877. Received Rev. John Hancock from the Presbytery of Newton.

May 2d, 1877. Licensed Mr. F. M. Todd as a probationer for the gospel ministry.

May 2d, 1877. Installed Rev. John Hancock as Pastor of the Church of Toms River.

June 12th, 1877. Licensed Mr. E. E. Moran as a probationer for the gospel ministry.

June 12th, 1877. Ordained Mr. E. E. Moran and installed him as Pastor of the Churches of Cream Ridge and Plumstead.

Sept. 4th, 1877. Received Mr. Oliver A. Kerr as a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Huntingdon.

Sept. 4th, 1877. Ordained Mr. Oliver A. Kerr and installed him as Pastor of the Church at Bordentown.

Oct. 2d, 1877. Received the Rev. Louis R. Fox from the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Oct. 17th, 1877. Suspended the Rev. John Brash.

By order of Presbytery,

J. B. DAVIS, *Stated Clerk.*

V. PRESBYTERY OF MORRIS AND ORANGE.

The Presbytery of Morris and Orange report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of forty-four Ministers, and have under their care thirty-nine Churches and one Licentiate.

Oct. 17th, 1876. They received J. W. Hillman, a Licentiate of the Presbytery of Brooklyn.

Nov. 3d, 1876. They ordained and installed him Pastor of the Church of Morris Plains.

Jan. 31st, 1877. They dissolved the pastoral relation of the Rev. J. A. French to the First Church of Morristown, and dismissed him to the Presbytery of Chicago.

Feb. 21st, 1877. They dissolved the pastoral relation of Rev. Wm. O. Ruston to the Church of Fairmount.

April 10th, 1877. They dismissed Arthur Bruen, a Licentiate, to the Presbytery of Steuben.

April 10th, 1877. They dissolved the pastoral relation of Rev. C. P. Murray to the Church of Lower Valley.

July 5th, 1877. They dismissed Rev. Samuel Sawyer to the Presbytery of Muncie. They received Rev. Wm. J. Henderson from the Presbytery of Westminster, and installed him Pastor of the Church of Lower Valley.

July 18th, 1877. They received Rev. Rufus S. Green from the Presbytery of Buffalo, and installed him Pastor of the First Church of Morristown.

Aug. 2d, 1877. They received Titus C. Davis, a Licentiate of the Classis of Ulster, and ordained and installed him Pastor of the Church of Fairmount. They dismissed Rev. Wm. O. Ruston, to Presbytery of Dubuque.

Sept. 18th, 1877. They received the St. Cloud Presbyterian Church, of West Orange—organized in August with twenty-eight members and two elders, viz., George B. McClellan and Eugene Delano.

Sept. 18th, 1877. They received Thomas E. Souper, a Licentiate of the Presbytery of Newton. They also dismissed Franklin P. Berry, a Licentiate to the Presbytery of Emporia.

By order of Presbytery,

B. C. MEGIE, *Stated Clerk.*

VI. PRESBYTERY OF NEWARK.

The Presbytery of Newark, to the Synod of New Jersey, reports as follows:

That it consists of forty-seven Ministers, three Licentiates and seventeen Candidates, and has under its care twenty-two Churches, all occupied by regular pastorates. That it received Rev. James S. Evans, D.D., from the Presbytery of Brooklyn, December 6th; Rev. Isaac W. Davenport from the Presbytery of Carlisle, April 4th; Rev. Israel W. Ward from the Presbytery of Springfield, Illinois, May 2d, Rev. Lucius H. Baldwin from the Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, June 6th, and Samuel McBride, a licentiate, from the Presbytery of New York, June 6th. That it licensed Mr. Herbert G. Lord, April 5th. That it ordained Mr. Samuel McBride, June 17th, and Mr. Henry Weber, June 24th, both as evangelists. That it installed Rev. James S. Evans, D.D., pastor of the Woodside Church, December 20th, and Rev. Isaac W. Davenport, pastor of the Plane Street Church, April 15th. That it dismissed Mr. Walter S. Nicholas, a licentiate, to the Central Presbytery of Philadelphia, March 7th, and dropped from the roll of its members the name of Rev. Charles H. Thompson, D.D., June 6th. That it dismissed Rev. Samuel McBride to the Presbytery of Redstone, October 4th. And that two of our aged and highly-esteemed brethren have died—Rev. Joseph S. Gallagher, May 12th, and Rev. Abner Brundage, September 29th.

By order of Presbytery,

WM. T. FINDLEY, *Stated Clerk.*

VII. PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Presbytery of New Brunswick report to the Synod of New Jersey that they consist of sixty-one Ministers, and have under their care thirty-one Churches, five Licentiates, and sixteen Candidates. They further report:

I. MINISTERS RECEIVED.

April 10th. Rev. Aaron F. Hutchinson, from Indiana Presbytery, Cumberland Presbyterian Church.
April 11th Rev. Alexander Miller, from Presbytery of Nassau.
April 23d. Rev. J. Thompson Osler, from Presbytery of Lehigh.
May 3d. Rev. Lewis W. Mudge, from Presbytery of Westchester.

Oct. 3d. Rev. Archibald Alexander Hodge, D.D., LL.D., from Presbytery of Alleghany.
Oct. 17th. Rev. Horace G. Hinsdale, from Presbytery of Westchester.

II. MINISTERS DISMISSED.

Dec. 29th, 1876. Rev. John D. Hewitt, to the Presbytery of Montana.
April 10th, 1877. Rev. John E. Peters, to the Presbytery of West Jersey.
April 10th, 1877. Rev. Henry Neill, D.D., to the Presbytery of Philadelphia.
April 27th, 1877. Rev. Robert G. McNiece, to the Presbytery of Utah.
April 27th, 1877. Rev. Robert Boyd, to the Presbytery of Oregon.
April 27th, 1877. Rev. Thomas M. Boyd, to the Presbytery of Oregon.

III. MINISTERS SUSPENDED.

May 4th, 1877. Rev. John Miller.

IV. PASTORAL RELATIONS DISSOLVED.

Dec. 29th, 1876. Rev. John D. Hewitt, with Kirkpatrick Memorial Church.
April 11th, 1877. Rev. Benjamin Carrell, with Kingwood Church.

V. ORDINATIONS.

April 27th, 1877. Robert G. McNeice.
April 27th, 1877. Robert Boyd.
April 27th, 1877. Thomas M. Boyd.

VI. ORDAINED AND INSTALLED.

June 12th, 1877. William P. Patterson, Pastor Titusville Church.

VII. INSTALLED.

April 22d, 1877. Rev. Alexander Miller, Pastor Kirkpatrick Memorial Church.
May 11th, 1877. Rev. Lewis W. Mudge, Pastor Second Church, Princeton.

VIII. CANDIDATES RECEIVED BY CERTIFICATE.

April 23d, 1877. Thomas M. Findlay, from Presbytery of Schuyler.
April 23d, 1877. DeLacy Wardlaw, from Presbytery of Nashville.
Oct. 2d, 1877. J. A. Livingstone Smith, from Presbytery of Westminster.

IX. CANDIDATES RECEIVED ON EXAMINATION.

April 23d, 1877. Norbury W. Thornton.
Oct. 2d, 1877. William H. Woolverton.

X. CANDIDATES LICENSED.

April 23d, 1877. Robert G. McNiece.
April 23d, 1877. Harry H. Wikoff.
April 23d, 1877. G. Howard Duffield.
April 23d, 1877. Lewis J. Adams, Jr.
April 23d, 1877. Robert Boyd.
April 23d, 1877. Thomas M. Boyd.
April 23d, 1877. Malcolm Cameron.

XI. LICENTIATE RECEIVED.

June 12th, 1877. William P. Paterson, from Presbytery of Philadelphia.

XII. CANDIDATES DISMISSED.

Oct. 21st, 1876. Roderic Henderson, to Presbytery of East Florida.
April 23d, 1877. Alexander M. McLeod, to Presbytery of Westchester.

XIII. LICENTIATES DISMISSED.

April 9th, 1877. John A. Ewalt, to Presbytery of Ottawa.
April 12th, 1877. G. Stockton Burroughs, to Presbytery of Lehigh.
April 23d, 1877. G. Howard Duffield, to Presbytery of Westminster.
April 23d, 1877. David H. Smith, to Presbytery of Truro, Nova Scotia.
Aug. 27th, 1877. Edward Payson Welsh, to Presbytery of Colorado.
Sept. 5th, 1877. Harry H. Wikoff, to Presbytery of Winnebago.
Sept. 11th, 1877. Lewis J. Adams, Jr., to Presbytery of Ottawa.

XIV. LICENSES EXPIRED BY LIMITATION.

April 23d, 1877. Augustus Macdonald.
April 23d, 1877. Charles Langlotz.
April 23d, 1877. Andrew Dowsley.

XV. DEATH IN THE MINISTRY.

Sept. 21st, 1877. Rev. Anslee De Forest White, Pastor of Fifth Church, Trenton, in the sixtieth year of his age.

By order of Presbytery,

A. L. ARMSTRONG, *Stated Clerk.*

VIII. PRESBYTERY OF NEWTON.

The Presbytery of Newton reports to the Synod of New Jersey that it consists of thirty-six Ministers, and has under its care thirty-four Churches and five candidates for the gospel ministry.

The Presbytery further reports:

CANDIDATE RECEIVED.

October 3d, 1877. Mr. John W. Cline, (on examination.)

LICENTIATE RECEIVED.

Oct. 19th, 1876. Mr. Charles E. Burns, from the Presbytery of Carlisle.

MINISTER RECEIVED.

October 3d, 1877. Rev. John F. Sharr, from the Classis of Orange of the Reformed (Dutch) Church.

NAMES OF CANDIDATES DROPPED.

April 18th, 1877. Mr. John W. Creveling and Mr. Isaac L. Lower. (Turned aside from the study of the ministry.)

LICENTIATE DISMISSED.

Sept. 10th, 1877. Mr. Thomas E. Souper, to the care of the Presbytery of Morris and Orange.

MINISTER DISMISSED.

April 9th, 1876. Rev. David Conway, to the Presbytery of Rochester.

PASTORAL RELATION DISSOLVED.

October 3d, 1877. Of Rev. William H. Belden, to the Church of Branchville.

CANDIDATE LICENSED.

May 9th, 1877. Mr. Elbert N. Condit.

ORDAINED.

May 9th, 1877. Mr. Elbert N. Condit, as an evangelist.

ORDAINED AND INSTALLED.

January 4th, 1877. Mr. Charles E. Burns, pastor of Second Church of Wantage.

DEATH IN THE MINISTRY.

June 21st, 1877. Rev. John J. Carrell, at Easton, Pennsylvania, aged 65 years.

NAME OF CHURCH CHANGED.

October 3d, 1877. The Church of Mansfield, First, to the Church of *Washington, First*, (in accordance with act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, of the session of 1877.)

By order of the Presbytery,

E. CLARKE CLINE, *Stated Clerk.*

IX. PRESBYTERY OF WEST JERSEY.

Members	43
Churches	39
Candidates	6

Nov. 1st, 1876. Dissolved the pastoral relation between Rev. F. D. Harris and the Church of Woodbury.

Dec. 5th, 1876. Received Rev. A. G. Baker from Presbytery of Butler; Dismissed Rev. W. W. McNair to Presbytery of Newark; Dismissed Rev. G. S. Campbell to Presbytery of Chester, after dissolving the pastoral relation between him and the Church of Williamstown.

Apr. 18th, 1877. Received Rev. J. E. Peters from Presbytery of New Brunswick; Dismissed Rev. A. S. Vaughan to the Presbytery of Chester; Dismissed Rev. A. G. Baker to the Presbytery of Philadelphia Central; Received as candidates for the ministry: Archibald A. Dewing, a member at Cold Spring, John Dunlap, a member at Woodstown; Granted permission to the Fislerville Church to be enrolled henceforth as the Church of Clayton.

May 26th, 1877. Rev. W. H. Dinsmore, Pastor at Deerfield, was removed by death.

Aug. 9th, 1877. Dissolved pastoral relation between Rev. J. H. O'Brien and the Churches of Wenonah, Glassboro' and Bunker Hill.

Oct. 3d, 1877. Received Rev. W. S. Frackelton from the Presbytery of DesMoines; Dismissed Rev. J. L. Scott to the Presbytery of Saharunpore, in India; Received as candidates, Mr. Howard Willis, a member at Fairfield, and Mr. Edward Dillon, a Licentiate from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Oct. 4th, 1877. Ordained Mr. Dillon to the work of the ministry and installed him over the Woodbury charge.

Oct. 11th, 1877. Installed Rev. J. H. O'Brien over the Church of Wenonah.

In behalf of Presbytery,

E. P. SHIELDS, *Stated Clerk.*

II.—NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 16TH, 1877.

As we attempt to gather up the record of another year of service rendered to our Lord, we are reminded at the outset of the inevitable imperfection of even the best estimates we can make of our labors and results. Not only are the statistics necessarily brief and fragmentary, but the work itself is largely of a nature which eludes all attempts at precise human measurement and weight. It lies in the region of the spiritual and invisible. Its efficiency depends entirely on the power of the Holy Ghost, whose working is like the blowing of the wind—of which we cannot tell whence it cometh or whither it goeth. The germs of grace that have been implanted and are now developing in some souls; the progressive sanctification of believers; the results that shall be produced by silent influences now at work; the relations of the present to the future: all these we know but in part or we know not at all. The Lord, who walks in the midst of His Churches with eyes like a flame of fire, may see things very differently from what we do. The record above may often be of quite another sort from the record below. If Ephesus, rigidly orthodox, has, nevertheless, left her first love; if Laodicea be rich and increased in worldly goods, but spiritually poor and miserable and blind and naked; or if Smyrna and Philadelphia, in great poverty and persecution, have nevertheless maintained a fidelity which receives the unqualified love and commendation of their Lord: all these things may be very dimly seen by mortal eyes, but are minutely scanned by Him who says to every Church, "I know thy works."

Yet there are fruits of the Spirit. The Church has its visible as well as invisible character. We are in the world, though not of the world. Christians have an outward living as well as an inward life. We walk by faith, but we also walk in the light; and it is our privilege and duty to gather up as well as we can the tokens of success or failure, of growth or declension in our religious history, in order that we may render the appropriate response of praise or penitence and learn the lessons of duty which are thus revealed. Therefore, like the apostles and Church at Antioch, we are assembled to rehearse, as far as we can, all that God has done with us, and how He has opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

He has done many things whereof we are glad. The tidings that come to us from the various Presbyteries of the State are full of good cheer and encouragement. Not that there has been any widespread, extraordinary outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but there has been a general progress of the truth, manifest in the numbers added to the Churches by profession of faith, as well as in other respects. Almost every Church in the State has received accessions from the world. The aggregate thus received is 2,793, being the largest annual number since the Synod was constituted as at present, except last year, when the extraordinary number of 4,518 was reached. A momentary glance at each Presbyterial narrative will give the most satisfactory view of this feature of our condition.

The Presbytery of Corisco says that, in review of the whole field, though the missionary numbers were so unusually few as to make the brethren distressed and anxious, the native aspect was never more hopeful; and, in confirmation of this, the narrative speaks of wanderers restored, of inquirers seeking the way of life, of zeal and earnestness characterizing the young native helpers, of comparative liberality, and of thirty-two persons admitted to the Corisco Church during the year.

The Presbytery of Newton reports that evident awakenings have been granted to at least eight of its Churches, in one of which sixty-four persons have professed conversion. But the most gratifying feature of the awakened interest in most of the Churches is the increased attendance at prayer meetings and the organizing of special meetings for prayer and for the study of the Bible.

The Presbytery of Monmouth informs us that the Churches uniformly indicate healthy growth and expansion. While there has been no large ingathering of souls, there have been additions to almost all the Churches.

The Presbytery of New Brunswick reports special spiritual blessings in the Church at Dutch Neck, the Third Church of Trenton, the Pennington Church, and particularly in the Witherspoon Street Church of Princeton. The other Churches generally have had a year of ordinary prosperity, with earnest work for God and the manifestation of a hopeful spirit.

The West Jersey Presbytery reports all its Churches in good condition, though no very large additions were made to the membership—the Church of Vineland having been most blessed.

The Presbytery of Elizabeth expresses great reason for thankfulness for the measure of prosperity that has attended the Churches under its care, with special mention of the very considerable additions to the membership of the Churches of Springfield and Elizabeth Third.

The Presbytery of Morris and Orange reports spiritual growth and prosperity among the Churches as a whole, with good account of the results of the widespread and marked revivals in its Churches last year, and of the faithfulness of the converts. There have also been refreshings this year in the Churches of Pleasant Grove, Mt. Olive, Hanover and German Valley.

The Presbytery of Jersey City reports from only about one-half of its Churches, and these are given in much detail. The summary announces a gratifying degree of compactness, enterprise, liberality and unanimity, with apparent growth in grace among believers, but without many conversions. Some of the reports of its particular Churches, it says, were apparently written with tears, in view of spiritual declensions and rare conversions.

The Presbytery of Newark reports that its Churches as a whole have enjoyed a healthy year of spiritual life, and that some have received a very considerable measure of refreshment, and are able to show large accessions to their membership. In the narrative of this Presbytery, and of several others, there is mention made of a matter worthy in this connection of the very special consideration of the Synod. It is the emphatic blessing of God which has rested on the mission work of individual Churches and Presbyteries. The First Church of Paterson reports that the principal additions to its membership have come from its mission. The Second Church of Newark has a prosperous mission which is a blessing both to its attendants and to the Church that maintains it. And this venerable Church, within whose edifice we have assembled, with its honored history of two hundred and eleven years, has recently renewed its youth in the vigor of its two mission branches, which are laden with the fruits of grace, and which, during the past year, have added to the mother Church an accession of converts which puts her at the head of all our Churches in new members, even as she is at the head of them all in years.

Besides these and other instances of individual Churches sharing in this charity which pre-eminently is twice blest, there is a similar testimony from those two southern Presbyteries which lately have been most actively engaged in mission work. They inform us that new points of interest are constantly opening up and are being occupied as promptly as possible. Under the guidance and fostering care of the Synodical Missionary, new enterprises are pushed forward and old interests are revived. To get the full significance of these things, we must remember the last report of our Synodical Missionary, in which we were told that during that year revivals so extensive had never before been known in the history of those two Presbyteries; that nearly five hundred persons from the world had been added to the

membership of the Presbytery of West Jersey, and nearly one thousand to that of Monmouth, which was believed to be the largest number, in proportion to its entire membership, of any Presbytery of our denomination in the United States.

Such statements are joyful and significant, but they are not surprising. This law of grace in both the direct and reflex blessedness of mission work, is not a new commandment, but an old commandment which we had from the beginning. Mission work is the essential and pre-eminent work of the Church of Christ. It is the natural development of the mind of the Master in the disciple. It is the beginning and end of the great commission. That Church is false to its own life and welfare, as well as to its Lord and the souls of men, that does not go forth eagerly and constantly to seek and save the lost. No Church can afford to rest content within its own comfortable walls and with its own pleasing services. In such self-indulgent torpor it will wither beneath the Master's frown, even if He does not remove its candlestick out of its place. Whoever of the regular attendants may or may not accept the invitation to the feast, the Church should have a fervent desire that there should always be a goodly number from the highways and hedges to furnish the wedding with guests. Such the Master sought, and it is enough that the servant be as his Master and the disciple as his Lord.

There is doubtless many a Church within our bounds, languid and unblessed, which, rousing to some mission work close at hand, would find, like the benumbed and despondent traveler in the Alps, that in trying to save a perishing stranger whom he found in the snow, he had not only roused and chafed the other into new life, but had also warmed and saved himself.

Nor does the opportunity for this service exist only in cities in which there are so many waiting fields of sin and want. In villages and country neighborhoods there are multitudes of the wandering and needy who could soon be found. Some Churches, too, could easily reach beyond their own boundaries and occupy more remote fields of destitution. The Church of Englewood, in its vigorous life, not only earnestly carries on all its own work, but also aids in sustaining four union Sabbath Schools in the vicinity, and, through its home school, carries on a mission work in the Thirteenth ward of New York City, expending in this work about $1,300 a year. And what if less ability and less opportunity be given to many another Church? There is at least the privilege of going out into the mountains to seek some sheep that is lost. It will need, indeed, something of the heart of the Good Shepherd to do it; but wherever it is done, it is sure of that Shepherd's blessing on both the finder and the found.

The condition of our German Churches appears to be encouraging. Those in Newark are making good progress, and the pastors report some interesting cases of Roman Catholics attending the services and becoming members.

It is pleasing to find that, notwithstanding the increasing straitness of financial affairs and the extreme embarrassment of many who formerly were liberal givers, that the contributions of our Churches to the Boards of our Church this year are in advance of those of last year by the sum of more than $30,000, although there is a falling off in the column of miscellaneous contributions. We are confident that this result represents more profound love for the cause of Christ, more conscientious liberality, more self-denial, than comes into the usual reports in such matters. Yet, in the presence of the cross, how far does even this come short of our ability and duty as suggested by the motive and rule of the words, "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich."

The Sabbath School work is generally spoken of in encouraging terms. One Presbytery remarks that the greater part of the accessions to the membership of the Church come from the Sabbath School. This is doubtless widely true, and this is as it should be. The early conversion of children should be earnestly sought and expected by every parent and teacher. Any method of religious instruction is radically defective which omits this aim. Pastors and parents and teachers should labor for this end as helpers of each other's faith and joy, seeking in early conversions to realize the fullest spiritual significance of the German proverb, "From the home to the school; from the school to the church; from the church to heaven."

The Presbytery of Newton speaks of special attention given to the formation of normal classes to prepare teachers for their work. This most important subject is beginning to receive attention for the want of which in former years many a school has greatly suffered. We would scorn to commit our children in secular schools to the charge of teachers as poorly fitted to teach them temporal things as some in the Sabbath School are to teach them spiritual things.

Only one Presbytery speaks of the Catechism. We are therefore unable to determine to what extent this matter is observed, but, from general observation and the significant omission in the narratives, we are convinced that there is no small need of a revival of interest in the Catechism. While we fervently rejoice in the increasing study of the Word of God, it should not be to the neglect of truth in its accurate definitions and systematic arrangement. It will be a good day for

our Church when the Catechism is restored to that post of honor which it still holds in Scotland, and which it once held among us.

Several of the Presbyterial narratives give prominence to the cause of Temperance. That of Elizabeth reports that in some of the Churches great interest has been taken in the cause, and great good has been accomplished. That of New Brunswick speaks of good work in this department done in Lambertville, and a movement in progress in Trenton, similar to that in Pittsburg, pervaded by a strong religious sentiment.

Morris and Orange reports that the terrible evil of Intemperance is not receiving the attention which it ought in the Churches.

Monmouth says the reports from its Churches almost uniformly mention advancement in the cause.

Newark reports that "Intemperance has become an appalling evil in our midst. This could not be if our Churches were truly alive to their duty to put forth specific efforts for its suppression."

Such is the diversified picture that comes before us. It reminds us of the increasing obligation of the Churches to address themselves more earnestly to this work. The antagonism of intemperance is so great, not only to the Church but to all the true interests of the community, its ravages are so constant and fearful, that every lover of God and man should not hesitate a moment in casting the whole weight of his influence against personal indulgence and public traffic in strong drink. It is no time to quibble about technical personal rights. No follower of Jesus has any right to allow a selfish gratification of a dangerous appetite to become a stumbling-block to the weak and a hindrance to those who would save the perishing. In this, and in all our labors there is great need that we be not weary in well doing; but that we be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

Such is a review of the history and condition of our Churches during another year. As we catch the grateful inspiration and learn the lessons of the past, we pause but a moment, and then address ourselves anew to the labors of the future. Our work is never done. We are ever in the midst of the struggle. Whatever may be the success of the gospel with one generation, immediately a new generation springs up begotten in the image of the old depravity, and with them all the work has to be done over again. The stone which we are endeavoring to roll up the mountain side is ever ready to recoil if we relax our hold. The powers of darkness, both in their invisible and visible forms, are sleepless and tireless in plotting and working against the cause of our Lord. We need to be equally sleepless and tireless in our part of the contest. The task to which every soldier and espe-

cially every leader in the ministry and eldership has consecrated himself is one to which it behooves him to address himself anew, not only with every rising, but also every setting sun. Our motto, like that of the great Wittemberg Reformer, must be, "Earth for labor; Heaven for rest."

Into that rest several of our ministers and elders have entered during the past year. The ministers who have gone up higher are: Joseph H. Gallagher, Abner Brundage, John J. Carrel, Ansley D. White, William H. Dinsmore.

Special mention is also made of the death in the eldership of Henry W. Green, formerly Chief Justice and Chancellor of the State; Hiram Williams, Joseph J. Scarborough, Benjamin S. Disbrow, Samuel H. Ford, Washington R. Vermilyea, Livingston K. Miller, Daniel T. Haines, Henry B. Britton, John Burtis, A. J. Gillette, J. F. T. Foreman. Several of these were distinguished in civil life, but their best record is that they were Elders that ruled well, and are therefore worthy of double honor.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ROMEYN BERRY, *Committee.*

IV.—REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

The Synod's Committee on Systematic Beneficence would report respectfully, that during the year the committee has endeavored to bring to the attention of the Churches of the Synod the important principles of Christian beneficence, which were noticed in the last annual report of the committee, viz.: the duty of conscientious, systematic, devotional giving to the treasury of our Lord. It is evident that the Churches of the Synod are beginning to appreciate, not only their duty, but also their privilege, in this regard, and that our benevolent work is approaching the standard which is presented in the New Testament.

The committee expected to make arrangements for a Synodical Missionary convention, to be held during the month of March. The removal of the chairman of the committee, the Rev. J. Abbott French, to Chicago, interfered with the plans of this convention, as they were maturing, so that the convention was not held. In other Synods such conventions awaken interest in our Presbyterian Church work, and it is believed by your committee that our own Synod would realize valuable results from such a missionary convention.

A complete report of the benevolent work of the Synod was prepared by the committee in the month of May, and was sent to the General Assembly for the use of "the Committee of the Synods on the Benevolent Work of the Church." Regarding that committee—"the Committee of the Synods"—as unconstitutional, the General Assembly abolished it, and ordered the chairman of each Synod's Committee on Systematic Beneficence "to send up, annually, a statistical report of the benevolent work of the Presbyteries embraced in the Synod that he represents, to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, at the place of meeting of the General Assembly, to be, by the Assembly, put into the hands of the Committee on Benevolence, as the basis on which their report will be made." (*Minutes of General Assembly, pp.* 575, 582.) This action of the General Assembly does not affect the Committee on Systematic Beneficence of our Synod, composed as it is of the chairmen of the several Presbyterial committees. It is only necessary that the Synod should direct its committee to send the report asked for by the General Assembly. to the Stated Clerk of that body in the month of May.

Notwithstanding the continued and prolonged depression in business—and no section of our country has felt this depression more

severely than our own State—the committee is able to report very large contributions to the departments of our Church work, and a most gratifying increase of fidelity on the part of our Churches.

The foreign missionary Presbytery—Corisco—sends no special report of its benevolent work.

Of the Presbytery of West Jersey it may be said, that considering the "times," the Presbytery is doing well in matters of benevolence. Some of the Churches take weekly collections, some monthly, some use the envelope plan, and some contribute to a common fund, which is distributed by the Session.

No special report has been received from the large and liberal Presbytery of Elizabeth. It is known, however, by the committee that most of the Churches of the Presbytery use one of the many plans in use among us, and that a careful oversight of the Churches in this department of work is maintained by the Presbytery.

In the Presbytery of Jersey City, the older and stronger Churches are cultivating the grace of giving with the other graces of the Christian life. Most of these Churches have adopted and are using some systematic plan.

From the Presbytery of Newark report comes: "I know that most of our Churches use a systematic plan, and that the subject grows, and I have no doubt will become universal. Some of our Churches collect every Sunday with the envelope plan, according to a previous pledge as to the amount by each individual; some throw all into a common fund, and the Session makes the distribution."

"Our Churches," so the report from the Presbytery of New Brunswick reads, "almost without exception, fill all the columns in the annual report. Delinquents are called upon to explain at the Spring meeting. The failures in one or two instances are deliberate, and pressure is not likely to work a cure."

The Presbytery of Newton held a missionary convention at Blairstown, June 7th, with very gratifying results.

In the Presbytery of Morris and Orange, some excellent methods for awakening and maintaining an interest in benevolent work are in use. The committee sends out in the Spring a series of questions to be answered by the Churches, and the report to Presbytery is based upon the facts and figures returned. After the Spring meeting of Presbytery, a table of comparative statistics is issued and distributed through the Churches. For several Winters a paper has been sent out by the committee, showing the condition of the Boards, and what has been contributed by the Presbytery up to January 1st or February 1st. At the stated meetings of the Presbytery, provision is made for one or more addresses on the subject of the Church work."

"It is plainly evident," writes the chairman of the committee of the Presbytery of Monmouth, "that our pastors and supplies are giving increasing attention to the matter of systematic benevolence. Not only giving more instruction on the subject, but also endeavoring to improve their methods of working in their collections. Some have adopted the plan of weekly offerings for gathering all money, both for current expenses and for benevolence, and they report the plan as working well. More send collectors around from house to house for benevolence. Some continue the old plan of collections in the Church occasionally. All our Churches are striving with more or less intelligence and earnestness to work according to the suggestions of the Assembly. I am happy to report that though the pressure of the times has been felt among us last year more than ever, our benevolent contributions considerably exceed those of the previous year. Great improvements are likewise to be seen in building new Houses of worship and Lecture Rooms, and in repairing old ones." "Altogether," this report says in conclusion, "I think the affairs of our Presbytery have never been in a more encouraging condition." So, true is it now as it was of old, "Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the Lord, we have had enough to eat and have left plenty; for the Lord hath blessed His people, and that which is left is this great store."

The statistical columns of the minutes of the General Assembly, unlike those of the last year, record the contributions of Churches to the several departments of Church work, not simply to the several Boards. This information is the latest and most accurate that can be obtained. Your committee, therefore, makes use of these reports in preparing the usual tabulated statement of the work of the year.

1. The amount given by each Presbytery, and the average per communicant, to all the departments of Church work (after deducting one-tenth of the number of communicants reported in each case in the minutes):

	AMOUNT GIVEN.	AVERAGE.
Corisco	$288 00	$1 01
Elizabeth	19,124 00	3 46
Jersey City	10,523 00	2 80
Monmouth	6,876 00	1 56
Morris and Orange	40,496 00	6 95
Newark	35,941 00	6 23
New Brunswick	19,780 00	3 30
Newton	9,884 00	2 08
West Jersey	7,261 00	1 64

Total for all Church work, including congregational expenses: 1876, $895,366; average, $22.03; 1877, $882,496; average, $21.69; decrease, $12,870.

2. The average, per communicant, of the Synod as a whole to the departments of Church work:

Home Missions	$1 44
Foreign Missions	1 19
Education	39
Publication	09
Church Erection	19
Ministerial Relief	14
Freedmen	13
Sustentation	07

3. The sum contributed by the Synod as a whole, to each of the Boards, and the amount expended by each of the Boards for work within the bounds of the Synod (figures from the books of the Boards):

	CONTRIBUTED BY SYNOD.	EXPENDED IN SYNOD.
Home Missions	$20,115 00	$7,757 00
Foreign Missions	27,670 00	Nothing.
Education	4,764 00	3,525 00
Publication	3,646 00	2,014 00
Church Erection	5,431 00	2,660 00
Ministerial Relief	5,957 00	3,895 00
Freedmen	5,679 00	Nothing.
Sustentation	2,868 00	8 00
Total	$76,130 00	$19,859 00

4. The tabulated statement of the fidelity of the Churches in contributing to the departments of Church work is as follows:

PRESBYTERY OF CORISCO.

The three Churches of this Presbytery, small and poor as they are, have made contributions to all the departments of our Church work.

PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETH.

The Churches of this Presbytery have contributed to all the departments of the work of the Church, except—

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Dunellen	5	Elizabeth, Third	1
Westminster, Elizabeth	1	Cranford	1
Plainfield, Second	1	Elizabethport, First German	3
Siloam, Elizabeth	5	Elizabeth, Madison Avenue.	all
Perth Amboy	1	Elizabeth, Second	2
Springfield	4	New Providence	6

Of these, two Churches are without pastors.

PRESBYTERY OF JERSEY CITY.

The Churches of this Presbytery have contributed to all the departments of Church work, except—

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Paterson, First German	all	Passaic	1
West Milford	all	Paterson, Br'dway, German..	6
Newfoundland	6	Norwood	all
West Hoboken	1	Carlstadt, German	4
Paterson, Second	4	Hackensack	7
Paterson, Third	all	Passaic, German	all
Lake View	all		

Of these, four Churches are without pastors.

PRESBYTERY OF MONMOUTH.

The Churches of this Presbytery have contributed to all the departments of Church work, except—

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Whiting and Shamong	1	Plattsburgh	4
Manchester	6	Beverly	4
Tennent	3	Mt. Holly	6
Perrineville	6	Tuckerton	5
Englishtown	6	Bass River	all
Red Bank	2	Bordentown	3
South Amboy	4	Cream Ridge	2

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Cranbury, Second	1	Plumstead	all
Dayton	5	Jacksonville	2
Delanco	all	Providence	5
Fairview	5	Ocean Beach	all
Columbus	4		

Of these, eight Churches have been without pastors.

PRESBYTERY OF MORRIS AND ORANGE.

In this Presbytery the following Churches have reported omissions:

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Mount Olive	3	Mount Freedom	2
Orange, Central	1	Boonton	1
Bethel	5	Mendham, Second	3
Sterling	all	Chatham	1
Mine Hill	5	Morristown, German	5
Myersville, German	1	Flanders	2
Morris Plains	6	Wyoming	6
Fairmount	all	Dover, Welsh	6

Of these, five Churches have been without pastors.

PRESBYTERY OF NEWARK.

The Churches of this Presbytery have filled all the columns except—

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Bloomfield, West	3	Newark, High Street	1
Newark, Central	1	Newark, Woodside	6
Newark, Third	2	Montclair	1
Newark, First German	2	Newark, Wickliffe	all
Bloomfield	1	Newark, Lyons Farms	7
Caldwell	3	Bloomfield, German	6
Newark, Sixth	1	Newark, Second German	6
Newark, Third German	2	Newark, Plane Street	6

Of these, two Churches are without pastors.

PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Churches of this Presbytery have contributed to all departments of Church work, except—

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Trenton, Fifth	1	Flemington	2
Amwell, First	1	Trenton, Second	4
Kirkpatrick, Mem	1	Princeton, First	2

Of these, one Church is without a pastor.

PRESBYTERY OF NEWTON.

This Presbytery reports the following omissions:

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Harmony	1	Musconetcong Valley	2
Danville	3	Mansfield, Second	3
Marksboro'	6	Wantage, First	3
Oxford, First	3	Sparta	all
Montana	all		

Of these, three Churches are without pastors.

PRESBYTERY OF WEST JERSEY.

The Churches of this Presbytery neglecting to fill all the columns, and the number of omissions, are—

	OMITTED.		OMITTED.
Brainerd	all	Camden, First	4
Hammonton	6	Vineland	6
Waterford	6	Atco	7
Berlin	7	Gloucester City	4
Haddonfield	all	Greenwich	2
Merchantville	5	Camden, Second	1
Deerfield	1	Fairfield	2
Tuckahoe	1	Bridgeton, West	1
Leeds Point	7	Glassboro'	7
Bunker Hill	all	Swedesboro'	6
Woodbury	4	Williamstown	all
Somers Point	all	Atlantic City	all

Of these, twelve Churches are without pastors.

There are 263 Churches within the bounds of the Synod, and 81 departments of Church work, consequently there are 2,104 opportunities of giving through the year. From this statement, derived from the minutes of the General Assembly, it would appear that there have been 512 instances of neglect to contribute. Of the 263 Churches of the Synod, 141 have contributed to all the departments of work; 100 have neglected one or more of these departments, and 22 have failed entirely to make any offerings of benevolence to our Presbyterian work. The failure to contribute anything whatever is observed, for the most part, in our German Churches, which need to be educated up to our Presbyterian views of Systematic Beneficence; and in new Churches, where all the departments of Church life are not yet organized; and in Churches at seaside or watering-places, where the attendance upon public worship is very small, except during the few weeks of the summer. Yet, with every allowance made for these circumstances, so peculiar and adverse, your committee is of the opinion that the difficulty in this matter lies with the sessions of our Churches. The opportunities for making contributions are not given to the people as they should be; there is a lack of patient, faithful, instruction upon this important subject. The blessedness of thank-offerings to our Divine Redeemer is not emphasized. Public worship includes a prayer of thanksgiving to Almighty God, for His goodness and mercy, as well as a petition for renewed devotion to the great work for which the Son of God suffered and died. Public worship is incomplete without such devout thanksgivings and such earnest petitions. The Church recognizes these elements of worship. In like manner the thanks of the heart and Christian devotion should find expression in these acts of Systematic Beneficence. Very precious in God's sight are the widow's mites thus presented, and the turtle doves and young pigeons which express the love of consecrate hearts. It cannot be that the members of our churches realize the exalted spiritual character of a benevolent act, else we should not have these many omissions to report. Your committee desires to hear of large donations to Christian work; but the desire is stronger to learn that in all our Churches the grace of Systematic Beneficence is a recognized fruit of the Holy Spirit. With this recognition secured, your committee is confident that the beneficence of our Churches will be systematic, and that large sums will be offered to the cause of Christ by those who are able to give out of their abundance.

Grateful to God for the measure of Systematic Beneficence which may be recorded by the Synod; conscious of the need of the presence of the Holy Spirit to instruct and stimulate the believer in this, as in every duty; confident that the word of the Lord on this great subject

will be blessed wherever it is preached, your committee would leave the report of the year to the wisdom of the Synod, and would await the instructions which may be given to shape the work of another year.

As at present constituted, the committee consists of—

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
Rev. W. H. Roberts	Elizabeth.
" H. M. Booth	Jersey City.
" J. G. Symmes	Monmouth.
" I. W. Cochran	Morris and Orange.
" J. P. Wilson, D.D.	Newark.
" Thomas Nichols	New Brunswick.
" W. A. Holliday	Newton.
" F. D. Harris	West Jersey.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

HENRY M. BOOTH, *Chairman.*

IV.—REPORT OF WOMAN'S WORK FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS, WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

The statistics are as follows, as reported at the close of the year of Parent Society, being the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church, 1334 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, April 26, 1877:

Presbyteries.	No. of Churches Organized.	Societies.	Amount Raised.	Mission Bands.	Amount.	Total No.	Total Amount.
Elizabeth	25	23	$1,998.74	16	$929.50	39	$2,928.24
Jersey City	9	9	2,036.14	7	560.03	16	2,596.17
Monmouth	33	11	616.00	6	181.50	15	835.00
Newark	22	10	2,992.72	4	1.40	14	2,993.72
New Brunswick	23	17	2,019.61	10	444.61	27	2,464.22
Newton	28	18	1,148.34	5	64.25	20	1,212.59
West Jersey	15	11	570.26	8	275 41	19	845.67
*Morris and Orange	10	8	2,355.55	3	57.20	11	2,412.75
Total	121	106	$13,737.36	55	$2,513.50	161	$16,328.86

* No Presbyterial Society in Presbytery of Morris and Orange, so far as ascertained.

The following sum additional has been sent to the Board of Foreign Missions, through the Woman's Board of Home and Foreign Missions, from nine Churches not in Presbyterial Union, $2,201; making in all, from the Presbyterian women of the State, $18,529.86.

We desire especially to call the attention of the pastors of this Synod to the fact that, although we are able to report thirty-one new societies and bands during this past year, there yet remain about one hundred and thirty-nine Churches, the women of which are not organized in this direction. It is found that, under God, much depends upon the interest taken in the matter by the Pastor of a Church. But there are many exceptions to this. Many pastors, though themselves much in earnest, have not yet been able to arouse the women of their Churches to any sense of the privilege given them by God, of aiding in the work of Foreign Missions.

We consider as very important, the training some of our children are receiving in the Mission Bands, which training is fitted to prepare them to fill places which must soon be left vacant, as, one after

another, we are called to higher service above. By their influence our pastors may here also greatly aid in the work, inspiriting us all to patient continuance in well-doing.

As to the permanence of this Woman's Work there is great encouragement, not only from the kind recognition given, and the acceptance of our reports by the various Presbyteries and the Synods of 1875 and 1876, thus bringing it into more direct relations to the Presbyterian Church; but again, still more so, because our Lord, Himself, is owning the efforts made, by marked tokens of His grace at home, as well as abroad. Union with Christ in love and sympathy for this fallen world does, of necessity, have the effect to bring any one thus engaged, into a higher plane of Christian experience, such as must make itself felt in every department of work for the Master.

While it "causes through us thanksgiving to God" that it was a woman who, during this past year, was honored to place the key-stone of $50,000 into the Foreign Missionary cause, (God bless her who has thus "been enriched to all bountifulness,") yet we hope our pastors will help guard against any latent impression that may follow, that the fragments, gathered with prayer and effort from thousands of our women and children, are not needed in the building yearly to be raised to the glory of the Lord.

Respectfully submitted, by order of the convention,

MRS. A. V. R. HODGE,
MISS M. J. MORTON,
MISS A. M. CARTER,
Secretaries of the Convention.

V.—SYNODICAL SOCIETY.

At the convention of the officers of six of the seven Presbyterial societies, together with several ladies from Morris and Orange Presbytery, held in the Third Presbyterian Church, Newark, on Tuesday afternoon, October 16th, 1877, they resolved to constitute themselves into a Synodical Society, to hold one meeting yearly, under the direction of its officers, during the same week in October as the session of Synod; and the secretary of which shall hereafter prepare the report to be presented to the Synod.

The officers elected are as follows, viz.:

President—Mrs. R. T. Haines.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. Joel Parker.
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. A. A. Hodge.

MRS. A. V. R. HODGE,
MISS M. J. MORTON,
MISS A. M. CARTER,
Secretaries of the Convention.

VI.—REPORT OF WOMAN'S WORK FOR HOME MISSIONS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

A meeting in the interest of Home Missions was held by Presbyterian women coming from different parts of the State, at the Third Presbyterian Church, Newark, New Jersey, on Tuesday morning, October 16th, 1877.

By request, a statement was sent from the Home Missionary Rooms, No. 23 Centre street, New York, as to the work done during the past year by the women of the Churches within the bounds of this Synod; which statement, in condensed form, is incorporated in this report, and may also be seen in full by any members of the Synod so desiring.

If it fails to be complete, it is because many of our women contribute to the cause of Home Missions through the envelope system or other regular Church collections; and if all that has been done in the way of Boxes for missionaries does not appear, it is for want of that systematic reporting which it is important to secure, not by way of boasting, but "that there may be equality" in the distribution of our gifts.

STATEMENT OF WOMAN'S WORK FOR HOME MISSIONS.

Presbyteries.	Churches sending Boxes.	Value of Boxes.	Churches giving Money.	Amounts.	Total.
Elizabeth	9	$861 85	4	$195 29	$1,057 14
Jersey City	4	650 00	1	36 00	686 00
Monmouth	2	614 50	...	.....	614 50
Morris and Orange.	4	356 00	...	.....	356 00
Newark	6	1,588 30	2	274 00	1,862 30
New Brunswick	8	2,294 97	1	100 00	2,394 97
Newton.	3	607 17	4	104 95	712 12
West Jersey	2	200 00	...	.....	200 00
Totals	38	$7,172 79	12	$710 14	$7,883 03

In addition to the above statement, nine Churches—principally in the Presbytery of Morris and Orange—have sent to the Ladies' Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church, at New York, $373, making in all from the women of the Presbyterian Church in this State, in—

Cash	$1,083 00
Boxes, valued at	7,172 79
Total	$8,255 79

It is seen from the above that the women of forty-five Churches only, out of two hundred and sixty-three in this Synod, are reported as directly engaged in aid of Home Missions.

The superabounding liberality shown in the value of boxes sent from the Presbytery of New Brunswick claims especial notice. The women of the Roseville Church, in the Newark Presbytery, have made the largest cash contribution.

One fact has been brought out by this report, viz.: That comparatively little is done by our women for Home Missions, even counting in the money-value of the "boxes."

The question comes before us, "How can we now most efficiently help in the work of the Lord to be done in our own country?" In some of our Churches it is certainly more convenient to concentrate effort upon preparing boxes; but, where it is possible to raise it, would not money be a more acceptable gift to our Home Missionaries?

Additional proof has been given by the above statistics that the work of Home and of Foreign Missions is not antagonistic. Some of the Churches that have done the most for the one have not failed as regards the other. In some places in our Western borders the two causes are, indeed, inextricably conjoined. Mrs. Hewitt, late of Ringoes, writes from Helena, Montana, that direct work for the Chinese presses upon her husband and herself, although Mr. Hewitt is under appointment of the Board of Home Missions.

In view of the action of the General Assembly (*see Minutes for* 1876, *page* 144,) recommending each Synod to appoint annually a committee of women, to be called "The Synodical Committee for Woman's Work in Home Missions," to be a medium of communication between local societies and the Home Board, and who, in consultation with the pastors and elders, shall have oversight of the work in their respective Synods, etc., which action, in modified form, was confirmed by the Synod of New Jersey in October, 1876. (*See Minutes, page* 26, *Resolutions 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th.*)

Also in view of the fact that the Standing Committee of the General Assembly on Home Missions, at its session, May, 1877, emphasized the importance of *every organization for benevolent work in every Church* being tributary to and in harmony with the work of the session of the Church and finding its connection with the Board, not in some outside auxiliary, but in those Scriptural and sufficient limits which inhere in the system of our Church—the Session, the Presbytery, the Synod, and General Assembly. Therefore the following resolutions were adopted by the women present at the convention:

Resolved, 1. That in the above action of the General Assembly of 1876, endorsed in effect by that of the Synod of New Jersey, and virtually

confirmed by the General Assembly of 1877, we note with gratitude to God that an onward step has been taken toward a recognition of woman's work, such as shall bring it into official relations to the regular work of the Church, and thus tend to give it greater efficiency and permanence.

Resolved, 2. That in accordance with the request of the Synod, (*see Minutes, page* 26, *No.* 4,) this convention reports to the Synod the following names, being those of two ladies from each Presbytery, who have been appointed to constitute together the Synodical Committee recommended by the General Assembly:

PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETH.

Mrs. O. E. Boyd, Rahway.
Mrs. R. T. Haines, Elizabeth.

PRESBYTERY OF JERSEY CITY.

Mrs. C. S. Shelton, Jersey City.
Mrs. Ashbel Green, Tenafly.

PRESBYTERY OF MONMOUTH.

Miss Mary Taylor, Burlington.
Mrs. B. S. Everett, Jamesburg.

PRESBYTERY OF MORRIS AND ORANGE.

(No Committee.)

PRESBYTERY OF NEWARK.

Mrs. J. P. Wilson, Newark.
Mrs. Duncan Kennedy, Bloomfield.

PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Mrs. E. H. Howell, Trenton.
Mrs. Fred. J. Slade, Trenton.

PRESBYTERY OF NEWTON.

Mrs. Thos. McCauley, Hackettstown.
Mrs. Henry E. Spayd, Harmony.

PRESBYTERY OF WEST JERSEY.

Mrs. M. C. Sheppard, Bridgeton.
Mrs. Judge Woodhull, Camden.

The officers chosen to serve during the ensuing year and to co-operate with the committee of Synod in making arrangements for the annual meeting in 1878, are as follows:

President—Mrs. Thos. McCauley, of Hackettstown.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. Langdon, of Elizabeth.
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. R. T. Haines, of Elizabeth.

The Board of Home Missions, in its last annual report, says that the appointment of such a committee in some of the Synods "has provoked the zeal of very many, and much new missionary interest has been awakened."

Therefore we trust that, if the Synod sees fit to confirm the nominations now respectfully submitted, much good effect may follow within the bounds of this State and Synod.

Resolved, 3. That an Annual Meeting of this Synodical Committee of Women for Home Missions, to which other women of our Churches shall be invited, be held the same week as that of the meeting of Synod.

Resolved, 4. That Presbyteries not represented at this convention be requested to name committees at their convenience.

The convention of October 16th, 1877, was presided over by Mrs. James P. Wilson, of Newark.

An address was made by Rev. Dr. Roberts, of Elizabeth.

The business was interspersed with singing and prayer, especially that "our love might abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment."

Respectfully submitted, by order of the Convention,

MRS. JOEL PARKER,
MRS. ASHBEL GREEN,
MRS. H. M. SHELTON,
Secretaries of the Convention.

VII.—REPORT ON UNEMPLOYED MINISTERS AND VACANT CHURCHES.

Reports in regard to unemployed ministers and vacant Churches, based upon the returns which were made to the General Assembly, have been received from all the Presbyteries in New Jersey.

They report ministers occupied, viz.:

In Evangelistic Work		242
In Educational Work		36
In General Work of the Church		8
Total of the *actively employed*		286
The *Honorably Retired* are	31	
Able to preach only occasionally	11	
Occupied in secular business	8	
Unemployed, who desire ministerial work	23	
Total of the *not* actively and *not fully* employed		73
Total number of Ministers on the roll		359

Whole number of Licentiates 25, of whom 11 were unemployed.

Whole number of Churches 260, of which 14 were reported vacant.

Compared with the previous year, these reports indicate a larger number of ministers who are not effectively employed, and a smaller number of vacant Churches.

The Churches which offer an adequate salary have no serious difficulty in finding candidates. But the feeblest Churches most need Presbyterial fostering care, because they are longest destitute, and consequently are most liable to decline and die.

The reports indicate a commendable and growing interest in the employment of ministers and the care of Licentiates. And yet, much more remains to be done in this direction, for mainly, if not only, by greater Presbyterial fidelity can serious evils be averted.

Inasmuch as several of the Presbyteries seem to have overlooked the important action of the Synod upon this subject last year, your committee call the attention of Presbyteries, and especially of the Stated Clerks, to the resolutions to be found on page 56 of the Synodical minutes of 1876.

ROBERT AIKMAN, *Chairman.*

VIII.—REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHURCH EXTENSION AND HOME MISSIONS.

The Committee on Church Extension and Home Missions respectfully present to the Synod their fifth annual report. It is the design of these reports to give in a succinct form a view of the progress made by our Presbyterian Church from year to year within the bounds of the Synod, as well as of the general condition of our Home Mission interests. The year through which we have been passing has been one of continued financial embarrassment, succeeding others of the same kind, restricting our Presbyteries to the work of church maintenance rather than permitting much work of church extension.

From the Standing Committees of the several Presbyteries come the following reports:

PRESBYTERY OF NEWTON.

This Presbytery has scarcely any real missionary ground, except in the points reached by the pastors of our several Churches as preaching stations. All the Churches of the Presbytery, with the exception of three, have settled pastors. One of these has a stated supply. Another, Branchville, has just been vacated by the removal of its faithful and successful pastor, the Rev. Mr. Belden, to Scranton, Pa. The other Church referred to, is Montana, for some time financially embarrassed, and lately its building forced to the sheriff's sale. The Trustees of the Presbytery purchased the property, and the Committee on Conference with Vacant Churches have taken measures towards supplying this people with the preaching of the Word. Rev. W. B. McKee, one of our most faithful ministers, has been doing earnest missionary work at two points in Sussex county—Franklin Furnace and Ogdensburg. Churches have not been organized here, but the prospect is hopeful. Rev. J. J. Carrell, who did much labor for the Lord in our weaker Churches for several years past, went to his rest last June.

PRESBYTERY OF JERSEY CITY.

During the year we have endeavored to preserve and strengthen the feeble Churches upon our roll, and in this have had encouraging success. The Westminster Church, formerly the Prospect Avenue Church of Jersey City, has come out of its trials purified and with increased efficiency. Their house of worship has been much improved during

the year, and the new pastor, Rev. O. B. Bidwell, has the hearts of his people and is greatly encouraged in his work.

The Lakeview Church of Paterson is without a pastor and burdened with a debt of $3,500; its pulpit is supplied by different ministers, the people devoting themselves to holding on to their Church property and maintaining their Sabbath worship and Sabbath School.

The large and important Third Church of Paterson struggles under its heavy pressure of debt, and the prospect of success in the present building seems well nigh hopeless. The other Churches of Paterson are assisting this Church in the payment of interest and rent.

The Norwood Church has become self-supporting by the voluntary relinquishment on the part of the pastor of that portion of his salary received from the Home Board.

The Claremont Church has lost control of its property by foreclosure of mortgage. It is probable, however, that favorable terms will be made with the bank now holding the title deeds, by which the Church may purchase or rent so much of the property as is needed by them, leaving the vacant lots with the bank.

PRESBYTERY OF MORRIS AND ORANGE.

This Presbytery continues the entire aid of the mission Churches within its bounds, of which there are at present eight, viz.: the three German Churches of Orange, Myersville and Morristown, and the Churches of Berkshire Valley, Morris Plains, Stirling, Wyoming and Mine Hill. There is expended in this work about $1,700 in sums varying from $100 to $350. The German Church of Orange has assumed the entire support of its pastor, while the Presbytery continues to pay the annual interest on its unfortunate debt of $5,000—a burden which we confidently expect to see lessened when better financial days dawn on us. These mission Churches generally maintain a vigorous life, as much so as can be expected under present circumstances. The Church of Morris Plains, having built their walls in troublous times, expect soon to dedicate a beautiful edifice without a dollar of debt upon it. The Church of Parsippany has recently finished a new and commodious parsonage. The First Church of Mendham has made great improvements upon its Church building, at a heavy cost—all paid for. The Morristown South Street Church edifice was totally consumed by fire on the 10th of January last. Steps were at once taken toward the erection of a new building, and already there is about to be inclosed a large and noble Church structure with every desirable appendage, and the topstone is to be laid without the superincumbence of the smallest debt. The Church of East Orange has, during

the year, made such extensive alterations of their old building as to have really built a new Church—a large and elegant stone structure—which was dedicated on the second Sunday of April last.

The First Church of Orange, in December last, dedicated a new chapel, built at a cost of $14,500 and without debt. In October of the present year, at St. Cloud, upon Orange Mountain, a Church was duly organized and a beautiful building dedicated at a cost of about $8,000 and without debt.

PRESBYTERY OF NEWARK.

The work of missions in the Presbytery of Newark is confined chiefly (though not exclusively) to the city of Newark.

The Second Church has had a mission Sabbath School for a quarter of a century, whose numbers exceed three hundred. It has also employed for several years a Bible reader. During the past year the work has assumed a more definite form under the charge of Rev. W. W. McNair. A commodious hall has been secured for services, and fifteen persons have recently been received into communion of the Church on profession of faith. To this mission the Church devotes about $1,250 per annum, and about $400 to other mission work in the city.

The First Church has two missions. The one immediately connected with the Church and using the Church buildings has a Sabbath School numbering one thousand ; of this number full seventy-five per cent. are Germans. A regular preaching service is held every Sabbath evening, with an attendance varying from four hundred to eight hundred. Besides this there are prayer meetings, Bible readings, &c.

The mission part of this school has been in operation about eighteen years, while the other services mentioned above have been held not quite five years. During the past year thirty-seven of the attendants on these services have united with the First Church by profession of faith, and as many more have united with other Churches. Rev. Samuel McBride was the missionary in charge last year, but has just left. The expenses of this mission have been $1,800, of which the Church supplied $1200 and the school the rest.

The other mission (called the Bethany Mission) is also prospering.

A new mission has been begun in the southwest part of Newark, in a large and encouraging field. A number of conversions have taken place, and an organization will soon be made.

The Church of Montclair has a mission at Upper Montclair, where a Sabbath School of seventy-five is in a prosperous condition, and religious services are held every Sabbath afternoen. Preparations are in progress for building a chapel in this place.

PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETH.

The Committee on Church Extension of the Presbytery of Elizabeth report with reference to the work within their bounds, the following particulars:

1. That the work has suffered no detriment from the financial stringency of the times, its every liability and necessary requirement having been fully met.

2. That the German Church organized last year at Elizabethport has steadily progressed in numbers and influence, and seems to have reached a stage when a Church edifice is necessary.

3. That a new Church has been organized under the most favorable auspices—the Madison Avenue Church, Elizabeth.

4. The proposed erection of a Presbyterian Pavilion, on a lot already donated, and at a cost of $2,000, at Asbury Park. This enterprise, hough lying without the geographical bounds of the Presbytery, the Committee yet deems worthy of its special mention and support, inasmuch as many of the ministers of Presbytery, and hundreds of the Church members, make the locality mentioned a Summer resort.

PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The population in that part of the State which is occupied by this Presbytery changes but slowly; few new places are rising into importance, and there is, therefore, little opportunity for Church extension work. The house of worship at Hopewell is nearly completed, and a new Church will soon be organized in that place.

The Church at Hamilton Square has erected a neat and convenient chapel at Newtown, which, it is believed, will aid it greatly in the cultivation of that part of the field. The Church at Kingwood, which at one time seemed likely to pass out of existence, still maintains the means of grace, and, as the Presbytery hopes, has yet an important work to do for the Lord in that vicinity.

PRESBYTERY OF MONMOUTH.

During the past year three of our mission Churches have assumed their own support, viz.: Farmingdale, Squan and Toms River. The other mission Churches, notwithstanding hard times and many removals, have been continuously supplied by faithful ministers.

The Church at Bass River, which had declined and seemed about to perish, has had a new life put into it, and largely by the persistent care of the Synodical Missionary. The faithful services of Mr. A. J. Sullivan, of the Union Theological Seminary, were secured during the

Summer, and the congregation greatly increased and a flourishing Sabbath School was established. In January a lady teacher united with the Church and opened a Sunday School in her school house. Timely aid was received by the Bass River people from the Sunday School of the Church of South Orange, which gave impulse and hope to this feeble Church and largely led to these good results. The people themselves have responded liberally and there is great promise of the future.

Riverton is a station on the Camden and Amboy Railroad, about eight miles above Camden. It has received much attention and labor from the Synodical Missionary; a Church has been organized there, and an edifice will probably be erected during the coming year.

The Church of Burlington has nearly completed a mission chapel in East Burlington, which is beautiful and commodious and out of debt.

In last year's report attention was called to the interesting enterprise at Barnegat, where a new Church had been recently organized under hopeful auspices. During the past year the Town Hall, a building erected for secular purposes, has been purchased, and is about to be remodeled and transformed into a place of worship for the new Church. This Church, with that of Forked River, forms a collegiate charge under Rev. Mr. Denton.

On the 14th of December last a Church was organized at Englishtown with seventy-five members, largely from the old Tennent Church.

At Ocean Beach the Presbytery organized a Church on the 20th of March last, and also accepted two eligible lots with the *proviso* that the title shall be forfeited if a building shall not be erected thereon during the ensuing year. At Spring Lake, also, a lot has been secured for another chapel.

The Presbytery of Monmouth reiterate their testimony to Synod to the value of the services of its Synodical Missionary in the work of Church extension, and ask the Synod for its continued aid in the great missionary field of the State.

PRESBYTERY OF WEST JERSEY.

While there were some vacancies among our missionary Churches at the opening of the Synodical year, these were speedily supplied. The close of the year finds us, however, with some fresh vacancies requiring attention.

This illustrates the fact that such Churches are subject to more frequent changes than the stronger Churches, and proves the necessity for such constant oversight and care as the Synod has happily provided in the appointment of a Synodical Missionary. While there has been no diminution of Presbyterial oversight, but an increase, we have yet

found the co-operation of your Missionary essential to our proper discharge of it. While upon this point, we beg leave to call attention to the following resolution adopted unanimously at the last stated meeting of Presbytery, and by a rising vote:

Resolved, That Presbytery hereby expresses its continued confidence in the fidelity and capacity of the Rev. A. H. Brown, Synodical Missionary, and that they hereby tender their thanks to the other Presbyteries of Synod for the aid furnished them in the support of a Missionary, a large part of whose labors is expended upon our missionary field. They are convinced that it would be utterly impossible for them to properly supervise this work upon this field without the efficient aid and superintendence thus afforded.

The points worthy of special mention, where progress has been made during the past year, are as follows:

The Church at Williamstown, for some time vacant, is now supplied with an efficient pastor.

At the late meeting of Presbytery, in Swedesboro', the brethren were pleased to notice the signs of progress, and especially the success of the effort to combine the English and German elements of the congregation into one harmonious Church, under the labors of a pastor educated at our German Theological Seminary and able to preach alternately in both languages. This Church was rescued from threatened extinction and brought into this position of usefulness mainly through the efforts of your Missionary.

The chapel at Billingsport, which was also saved from passing out of our hands by his efforts, has been supplied with constant Sabbath School and other missionary efforts, under the fostering care of the Church at Wenonah. In common with the Presbytery of Monmouth, although not to the same extent with them, we have a special missionary work of importance along the Atlantic shore, in providing for the spiritual wants of visitors and of the increasing permanent population which winters along the coast. A revival last Winter brought up the Church at Atlantic City from extreme feebleness to a membership of forty; and we are now directing our efforts to its permanent establishment as a center of blessing to both the classes before referred to. We hope also to re-establish the Church at Somers Point, for some time almost extinct.

Over our field in general we have to report the continuance of faithful labor, and while the results in growth and conversions are not so marked as during the previous year, we have still much evidence that these labors have not been in vain in the Lord.

The Church at Clayton have dedicated their beautiful new house of worship since our last report, and discharged the debt upon it.

The Church at West Bridgeton, which hitherto has been worshiping in their new chapel, are now completing their large and handsome Church edifice, and expect to occupy it by next Spring, free from debt; and the Church of Tuckahoe, for the first time in its history, has ventured to call a permanent resident minister.

WORK OF THE SYNODICAL MISSIONARY.

In the early part of the Synodical year, numerous vacancies occurred, which, by frequent visits and constant care, have been supplied with scarcely an exception, and opportunities embraced to secure in these fields the labors of some of our unemployed ministers.

The Churches do not report extensive revivals, as in the previous year, yet all have had a vigorous and healthy growth. Some that were deeply depressed have been lifted up and quickened, such as the Churches of Fairview, Brainerd, Bass River and Atlantic City. Churches like these, feeble and sometimes ready to perish, have been carefully sought out and nourished into life. Others, as the Second Church of Cedarville and Williamstown, hardly able to be self-supporting, have had extended to them a helping hand. Some of the Churches have been induced to adopt the plan of weekly offerings for all home expenses, and have it in successful operation.

The Synodical Missionary has met frequently with Presbyterial Committees, co-operating with them in their work; has explored new fields, sought out information respecting the extinct Churches of a former day, and given special attention to the German population, who have been much passed by in our evangelic work. In this constant care of the temporal and spiritual wants of the Mission Churches and the exploration and oversight of the wide field, both the week days and the Sundays of the year have been abundantly filled up.

The number of Churches receiving aid is the same as last year, about thirty, although some have withdrawn from and others have been added to the list. Of these, sixteen are in Monmouth Presbytery and fourteen in the Presbytery of West Jersey. Two of the Churches of Monmouth Presbytery (Jacksonville and Providence) have received aid from private sources and not from the Board of Missions. In this connection it may be mentioned that the special mission field of our State—the Presbyteries of Monmouth and West Jersey—drew from the Board, for the year ending April 1st, 1876, the sum of $4,586, and for the year ending April 1st, 1877, the sum of $4,565, or a few dollars less, which shows that while the work in these Churches has been sustained more vigorously than at any previous time, yet its administration by the Presbyteries has been with careful economy, and has been attended

with much self-exertion on the part of the Churches and self-sacrifice on the part of the ministers. At the same time your Committee gladly acknowledge how liberally and cheerfully the Home Board has responded to the applications in behalf of these Churches.

Some special things accomplished during the year may here be given. The dedication of the beautiful Church at Clayton is alluded to in the report from West Jersey, but is worthy of special mention as another of the offsprings of the missionary Church of Williamstown, which, not yet old, is yet a mother of Churches. At Yardville—long neglected until the attention of the Synodical Missionary was drawn to it by a good Christian lady—the Sabbath School is now superintended by an elder from Allentown, and Sabbath services are maintained in the chapel by the neighboring pastors.

The Church at Somers Point had declined through neglect, and its sanctuary was closed. By visitation and encouragement given, a Sabbath School has been organized with very encouraging prospects.

Our Church in Atlantic City, until recently, has been dormant, if not dead—reduced to seven members, and these completely disheartened. In the lower part of the city is a chapel where a mission school has been sustained by a Philadelphia gentleman. By him the use of the chapel was proffered to our Presbyterian brethren with promise of pecuniary aid. There being in Atlantic City many neglected German families, it was deemed expedient to obtain a minister who could preach in both English and German. The effort for the Germans has not been as successful as could be desired, but much good has been done. A decided awakening occurred, and the number of Church members has increased to forty. Public services have been maintained during the year and the great importance of the field has been made clearly manifest. There is a large and beautiful Presbyterian Church edifice in Atlantic City, but it is too large for our Winter congregations and quite ill adapted for Winter services. Our Synodical Agent and the Committee of the West Jersey Presbytery have the whole difficult subject under consideration. The interests of Presbyterianism in this place, where there is a permanent population of two thousand five hundred persons, and rapidly increasing, are very important. The difficulty and the need of Christian effort is enhanced by the vast Sunday excursions on the two rival railroads from Philadelphia, which outpour themselves upon Atlantic City. On a single Sabbath one hundred and forty-eight cars emptied between ten and twelve thousand strangers upon the place. The City Council and the better classes of the people protested against these outrages upon the peace of the city. One of these companies yielded to the remonstrances, and, as to the other, on the following Saturday, the sea rolled in, and covering their

track, reduced to ruins their new Excursion House. Our missionary has had a very active agency in the way of Bible distribution, by which sixteen hundred copies of the Word of God have recently been placed in Atlantic City, designed mainly for the use of visitors and employes in the hotels and boarding houses.

Delanco and Fairview are Churches situated ten or twelve miles northeast of Camden; with Riverton they form a triangle, and the three can be well grouped together. As suburbs of Philadelphia, and with a prospective growth, they are important. The people in all these places were in great discouragement, and the care of them during the winter was a heavy burden to our Synodical Missionary. Rev. J. R. Sanson came upon the field last Spring, and the prospects have brightened, so that we hope for good work there to be accomplished. A Church was organized at Riverton by the Monmouth Presbytery, on the 11th of October and during the coming year they expect to put up a building.

The Church at Barnegat has received no little attention from Mr. Brown. The Town Hall, with one-third of an acre in the center of the village, having been sold under foreclosure, was secured for our newly organized Church. It had been used for theatrical purposes. The stage portion is now arranged for Sunday School and worship during the Winter. The people have been presented with a pulpit from the Church of South Orange, and a beautiful communion set from the Church of Beverly.

Your Committee are happy to acknowledge special financial help from the Sunday Schools of Madison and South Orange, and the South Street Church of Morristown.

In conclusion, your Committee desire to fix the mind of the Synod upon the peculiar nature and the growing importance of this mission field. Here lies more than one-half of the State of New Jersey. Great improvements and changes are going on here: within a quarter of a century over twelve millions of dollars have been expended upon railroads, while new roads only await better times to open up new territory. The agricultural possibilities of nearly all this region have not much more than begun to be developed, but with the opening communications with great markets, are developing rapidly year by year. The permanent population of the four shore counties has, in twenty-five years, increased more than fifty per cent.

In this broad territory there are seventy-nine Presbyterian Churches. Of these only about one-third are able to sustain themselves comfortably and to help others, while of the others, thirty are compelled to obtain missionary aid. There is an immediate demand for the erection of six small Churches, costing from two to five thousand dollars each, and help is needed from the strong Churches, Sunday Schools and wealthy

persons in other parts of the Synod, for the work of Church Extension grows in magnitude, and the fruits of it reward all efforts in its behalf.

A field altogether unique and full of interest presents itself in the many seaside resorts springing into sudden existence all along the ocean shore. Indeed, the Atlantic shore of New Jersey is becoming almost the watering-place for the continent. As the report from Monmouth Presbytery says: "Increasing multitudes from the interior, resort to the sea, and remain in large numbers from June to October. Large hotels, costly and beautiful Summer residences, and others less costly, but convenient, are annually built, and ere long the whole coast from Sandy Hook to Squan will be thickly populated with Summer residents and an increasing permanent population." For the spiritual needs of these multitudes this Synod should have some care. Many of these are our own people. It is supposed that more than a thousand Presbyterians were at Asbury Park and Ocean Grove during the past season. For these, and many other thousands gathered there on the Sabbath, Church accommodations were, of course, entirely inadequate.

It is by no means to be expected that Churches will be built or will be needed for all these transient visitors, but that most hopeful and admirable openings are thus made for Christian influence and power, is plain and is perceived by men of Christian enterprise and zeal. Thus, at Asbury Park, under the leadership of one of our pastors (of Elizabeth Presbytery) whose Summer home is there, a board of trustees has been constituted of influential gentlemen, by whom a lot 100 feet square has been secured on which to erect a Presbyterian Pavilion for the use of the Summer crowds of our Church, although it is not at present proposed to organize a permanent Church.

Besides the Church constituted at Ocean Beach and the lot secured at Spring Lake, the Monmouth Presbytery contemplate aggressive Church movements when a prudent energy shall dictate the time, and thus "kindle lights all along the shore."

By the good providence of God, in the re-union of the Presbyterian Church this Synod of New Jersey was made conterminous with the State, homogeneous and compact. To no Synod of our Church is a more favorable opportunity given for mission work within its own home boundaries, and to none is there given promise of a harvest earlier to be gathered or more fruitful.

As the great vacant spaces of untilled lands in our State are made accessible; as the tides of population slowly and steadily move in to fill them up, and bring them into the rich cultivation of which they are susceptible; as villages and cities emerge and grow, shall not this Synod of New Jersey be mindful of its opportunities and of its inheritance

and keep spiritual step with the manifest leading of Him who hath promised to give the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven to the people of the saints of the Most High?

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT AIKMAN,
Chairman.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

There have been received from the Presbyteries as follows:

Presbytery of Elizabeth	$240 00	
" " Jersey City	160 00	
" " Monmouth	160 00	
" " Morris and Orange	240 00	
" " Newark	222 56	
" " New Brunswick	240 00	
" " Newton	145 08	
" " West Jersey	160 00	
		$1,567 64
Balance on hand from last year		100 00
		$1,667 64

There has been paid as follows:

Balance due Mr. Brown on former year	$105 72	
Salary for current year	1,200 00	
Traveling expenses	317 66	
		$1,623 38
Leaving a balance on hand of		$44 26

ROBERT AIKMAN,
Treasurer.

The Standing Committee on Church Extension and Home Missions, as now constituted, is as follows, viz.:

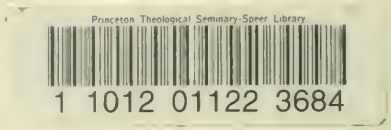
NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.	P. O. ADDRESS.	
Rev. Robert Aikman, D.D., *Chairman and Treasurer,*	Morris and Orange	Madison,	N. J.
Rev. E. Kempshall, D.D.	Elizabeth	Elizabeth,	"
" C. K. Imbrie, D.D.	Jersey City	Jersey City,	"
" A. H. Dashiell, Jr.	Monmouth	Bricksburg,	"
" E. R. Craven, D.D.	Newark	Newark,	"
" A. Gosman, D.D.	New Brun-wick	Lawrenceville,	"
" H. B. Scott	Newton	Bloomsbury,	"
" L. C. Baker	West Jersey	Camden,	"

The Committee desire to call attention to the statement made in a former report, that they disclaim any power or desire *to make an assessment* either on Presbyteries or Churches. A definite work has been laid upon the Committee by the Synod, involving a definite outlay of money. The proportion of $240 to each of the Presbyteries of New Brunswick, Morris and Orange, Newark and Elizabeth, and $160 to each of the Presbyteries of Newton, Jersey City, Monmouth and West Jersey, is but an estimate supposed to be fair, but binding on no one; an endeavor only to give the work a *reasonable basis of support.*

NOTE.—The Synodical Committee met and re-appointed Rev. Allen H. Brown Synodical Missionary for one year. His P. O. Address is 319 North Fifth street, Camden, N. J.

MODERATORS SINCE THE REUNION.

DATE.	MODERATOR.	PRESBYTERY.	PLACE OF MEETING.
June 21, 1870	Rev. Jona. F. Stearns, D.D.	Newark	Elizabeth.
Oct. 18, 1870	" Chas. K. Imbrie, D.D.	Jersey City	Morristown.
Oct. 17, 1871	" Robert Aikman, D.D.	Morris & Orange	Bloomfield.
Oct. 15, 1872	" Samuel Miller, D.D.	Monmouth	Trenton.
Oct. 21, 1873	" J. H. McIlvaine, D.D.	Newark	Washington.
Oct. 20, 1874	" J. M. Macdonald, D.D.	New Brunswick.	Camden.
Oct. 19, 1875	" Wm. C. Roberts, D.D.	Elizabeth	Orange.
Oct. 17, 1876	" Thomas McCauley	Newton	Elizabeth.
Oct. 16, 1877	" E. Kempshall, D.D.	Elizabeth	Newark.



DATE DUE

FEB 23 2009

HIGHSMITH #45115